

THE YEAR IN REVIEW 2005

By Curtis A. Utz, Mark L. Evans, and
Dale J. Gordon



Naval Aviation faced tremendous challenges during 2005, not only on the battlefield but also in the face of natural disasters throughout the world. The ability to execute combat actions while meeting high operational requirements across the globe demonstrated Naval Aviation's importance to national security. The Navy continued to integrate new concepts, structures, ideas, and technology as it evolved to meet increased operational tempos.

Throughout the year, Naval Aviation carried out missions over dynamic and changing battlefields in Afghanistan and Iraq. Aircraft supported rapidly developing operations, and the need to hit targets with time-sensitive strikes often meant that aircrews were

assigned targets while already airborne. Air power helped flush enemy troops into the open, where ground forces could deal with them. Naval Aviation also provided support to coalition forces in Iraq before and during critical elections in that country.

Naval Aviation also executed numerous security missions around the globe. Naval aircrew members flew surveillance and sea control missions protecting crucial carrier strike groups, expeditionary strike groups, and other naval forces. They also provided intelligence and situational awareness to theater commanders and participated in maritime interception operations in many locations. Naval Aviation assets also evacuated casualties from the battlefield and from the high seas. Aircrew



Facing page, an F/A-18F Super Hornet from the Black Aces of Strike Fighter Squadron 41 flies over the Arabian Gulf on 17 September 2005. Photo by TSgt. Rob Tabor. A CH-53E Super Stallion, above, with Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron 465 flies above a sand storm in the Iraqi desert on 17 May 2005. Photo by Cpl. Alicia M. Garcia.

members hunted for drug smugglers, assisting in reducing the flow of contraband onto America's streets. Naval Aviation forces also continued to deploy in new ways, intermixing Marine Corps and Navy squadrons in accordance with the Unit Deployment Program and "surging" when needed to meet the requirements of the Fleet Response Plan.

The organization of the Navy continued to evolve to better fulfill these requirements. Some changes were due to the planned reduction in different types of aircraft in the inventory. Others reflected the replacement of older airframes with more technically advanced aircraft. The renowned F-14 Tomcat began its final carrier deployment, marking the end of the fighter community's shift from the Tomcat to the F/A-18 Hornet. The MH-60R Seahawk, which together with the MH-60S will replace the SH-60B/F and HH-60H, entered squadron service.

Naval Aviation continued to field and develop new technologies. Unmanned aerial vehicles were used in more operations while additional technical developments improved these platforms. In a change to earlier plans, the UH-1Y Huey upgrade was approved for production as new helicopters, rather than remanufacture from existing aircraft. The EA-18G Growler and MV-22 Osprey programs moved forward. Weapons also improved and the Navy added more to the inventory.

A year of extreme natural disasters provoked unprecedented demands upon Naval Aviation. Sailors and

Marines responded to crises at home and overseas, accomplishing Naval Aviation's largest humanitarian relief effort during a single year to date. (See sidebar, page 36.)

Naval Aviation fulfilled its responsibilities throughout 2005, and the community continued to advance to meet the escalating requirements of the 21st century.

Note: Data in chronology and charts may be incomplete because of limited accurate source material due to the failure of some squadrons and wings to file a command operations report in accordance with OPNAVINST 5750.12J.

January

The Coast Guard cutter *Mohawk* (WMEC 913) conducted counterdrug operations in the Caribbean. During an interception of a go-fast smuggling vessel, the ship's crew and her embarked HH-65A Dolphin, working in conjunction with Navy surface and aviation assets, seized 37 bales of cocaine with a street value of nearly \$25 million.

27 The EA-18G airborne electronic aircraft, designed to replace the EA-6B Prowler, completed wind tunnel testing. Engineers subjected models to 1,412 hours of testing at Boeing Co. and NASA facilities, validating the F/A-18F Super Hornet airframe for the electronic attack mission.

28 The DoD announced the award of a \$1.7 billion contract to build the presidential helicopter (VXX) to a team led by Lockheed Martin Systems Integration, Oswego, N.Y. Based upon that company's U.S. 101 helo, the new model will provide the president with improved mobile command and control capability. Initial operating capability with Marine Helicopter Squadron 1 is expected in 2013.

30 *Harry S. Truman* (CVN 75), with Carrier Air Wing 3 embarked, provided on-call close air support as part of the security efforts during the Iraqi national elections. The wing flew 32 sorties during 16 hours of flight deck operations.

February

7 President George W. Bush sent the FY06 defense budget request to Congress. The request included \$565 million for advance procurement of CVN 21, \$2.9 billion for F/A-18E/F Super Hornets, \$5 billion for the multiservice Joint Strike Fighter, and \$350 million to continue development of Joint Unmanned Combat Air Systems.

10 The Marine Corps announced that the KC-130J Hercules passed its second operational evaluation, based on tests at NAWC China Lake, Calif., MCAS Cherry Point, N.C., and MCAS Yuma, Ariz.

13 Marine Aerial Refueler Transport Squadron (VMGR) 252 relieved VMGR-452 in Iraq, beginning the first deployment of the KC-130J.

13 *Carl Vinson* (CVN 70), with Carrier Air Wing 9 embarked, departed NAS North Island, Calif., for a global circumnavigation. The deployment

included operations in the Indian Ocean and ended with the carrier shifting home port from Puget Sound Naval Shipyard, Bremerton, Wash., to NS Norfolk, Va., to conduct a refueling and complex overhaul at Northrop Grumman Newport News, Va.

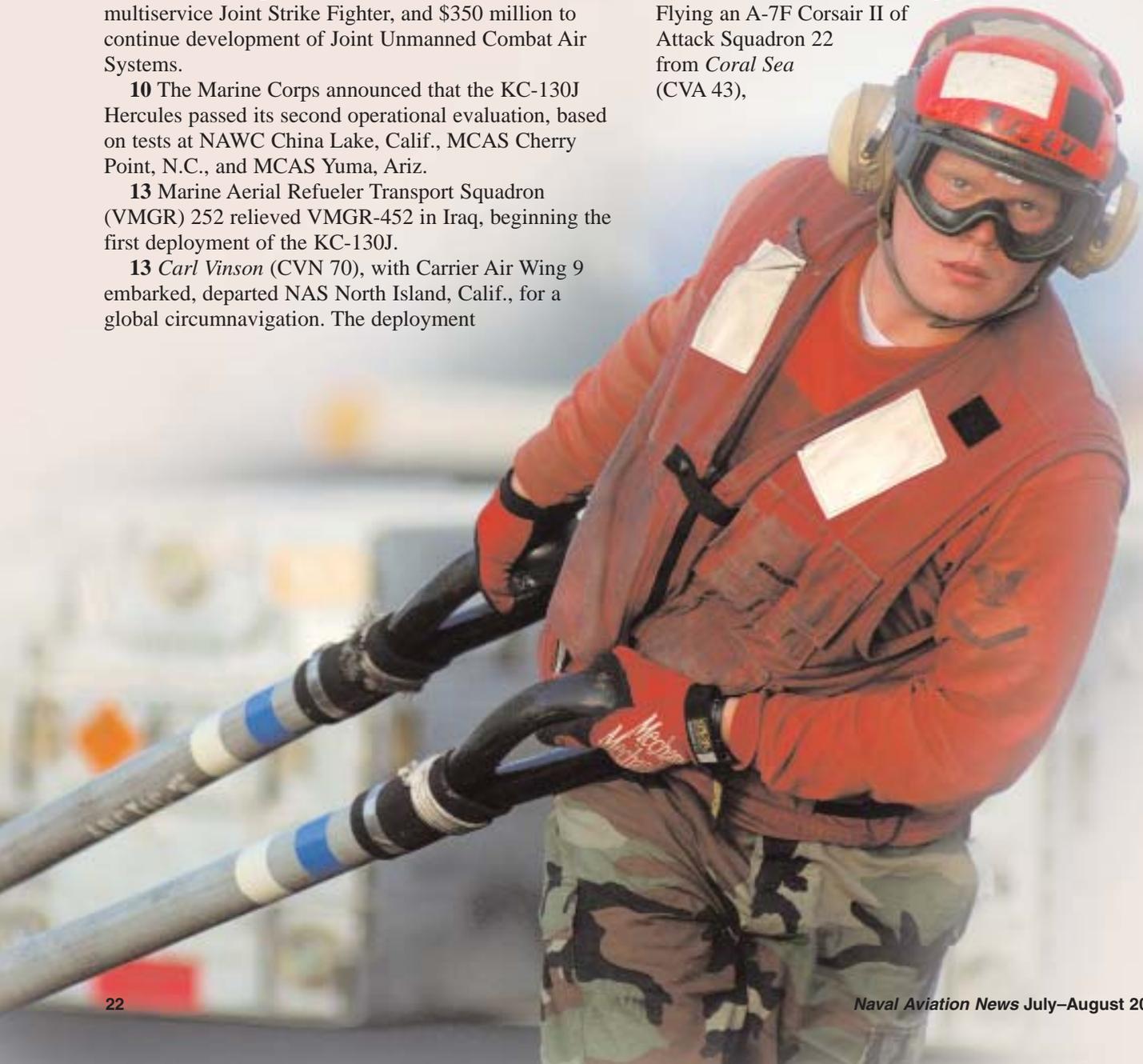
March

8 The final keel section of *George H. W. Bush* (CVN 77) was lowered into place at Northrop Grumman Newport News, Va.

14 The Navy announced that the Advanced Hawkeye was designated E-2D. Construction began in early April. The Navy plans to procure 75 aircraft, with initial operational capability in 2011.

15 The first Improved Capability III EA-6B was delivered to Electronic Attack Squadron 139 at Northrop Grumman facilities in St. Augustine, Fla.

18 Remains returned from Vietnam were identified as those of Cdr. Thomas E. Dunlop. Flying an A-7F Corsair II of Attack Squadron 22 from *Coral Sea* (CVA 43),





Facing page, a sailor from the weapons department aboard *Harry S. Truman* (CVN 75) pulls two replenishment pennants across the carrier's flight deck during underway replenishment on 3 November 2005. Photo by PHAN Ricardo J. Reyes. Above, Lt. Ben Walborn, a landing signal officer on *Kitty Hawk* (CV 63), is the youngest of four brothers to serve in the Navy and the third to be selected as an LSO. Photo by PH3 Bo Flannigan.

Dunlop was shot down by a North Vietnamese surface-to-air missile near Dong Hoi on 6 April 1972.

18 The Multimission Maritime Aircraft completed 1,300 hours of high-speed wind tunnel testing with Boeing Co., at the NASA Ames Research Center, San Jose, Calif.

20 *Carl Vinson* (CVN 70) relieved *Harry S. Truman* (CVN 75) in the Arabian Gulf, where *Truman* had been operating since November 2004. *Vinson's* Helicopter Antisubmarine Squadron 8 deployed a detachment comprising half the squadron ashore at Camp Arifjan, Kuwait. The det patrolled southeastern Iraq and flew maritime security operations over the northern Gulf, returning to the ship on 29 June. The remainder of the squadron provided the carrier's plane guard and patrol craft.

25 Marine CH-53E Super Stallions participated in the rescue of a stranded U.S. mariner which involved coordination of forces from around the globe. The Coast

Guard Pacific Command Center, Alameda, Calif., picked up the distress signal of a U.S.-flagged private yacht that had run aground off Eritrea, and alerted Naval Forces Central Command. NAVCENT coordinated a rescue effort with JTF-HOA, which tasked two Marine Corps CH-53E Super Stallions based in Djibouti, with Air Force rescue personnel embarked, to assist in the search and rescue operation. A French Atlantique maritime patrol aircraft also responded to the distress beacon. A local fisherman transported the stranded mariner to shore, where he was hoisted into one of the CH-53s and flown to the U.S. Embassy in Djibouti.

25 Remains returned from Vietnam were identified as those of Cdr. J. Forrest G. Trembley. Cdr. Trembley and Ltjg. Dain V. Scott, flying an A-6A Intruder of VA-196 from *Constellation* (CVA 64), had completed a run against Duc Noi Rail yard when their aircraft was attacked by four North Vietnamese MiG-19s and shot down near the Chinese border on 21 August 1967.



PATROL SQUADRON MAJOR DEPLOYMENTS, 2005

NAS Sigonella (Dets in Bahrain and Hato AB, Netherlands Anitlles/Comalapa, El Salvador)*

VP-5 Dec 04–May 05
VP-10 May 05–Dec 05
VP-26 Dec 05–present

Bahrain (Dets in various Central Command locations)

VP-4 Dec 04–Jul 05
VP-45 Jul 05–Dec 05
VP-47 Dec 05–present

NAF Misawa, Japan (Det in Kadena)

VP-8 Dec 04–Jun 05
VP-40 Jun 05–Dec 05
VP-1 Dec 05–present

* Caribbean operations were largely conducted by reserve VP detachments.

ATAN Justin Kirschbaum signals a P-3C Orion of Patrol Squadron 5 as it taxis toward the runway at NAS Sigonella, Sicily, on 5 April 2005. Photo by PHAN Jacqueline Hall.

25 *Dwight D. Eisenhower* (CVN 69) returned to the fleet after a \$2.5 billion, four-year refueling and complex overhaul at Northrop Grumman Newport News, Va. Three days later, Carrier Air Wing 7 personnel embarked for the carrier's flight deck certification.

28 Marine Tiltrotor Test and Evaluation Squadron 22 began operational evaluation of the MV-22 Osprey.

30 The Multimission Maritime Aircraft was designated the P-8A. The Navy intends to procure up to 108 P-8As to replace the P-3C Orion.

April

4 Strike Fighter Squadrons 147 and 154, embarked on board *Carl Vinson* (CVN 70), dropped 500 pound laser guided bombs on Iraqi insurgents east of Baghdad, Iraq.

4 Bell Helicopter Textron, Inc., Fort Worth, Texas, was awarded a \$104 million modification to an existing contract for the second low rate initial production lot of H-1 upgrade aircraft, consisting of four UH-1Y Hueys and three AH-1Z Super Cobras. The Marine Corps intends to procure 100 UH-1Ys and 180 AH-1Zs by 2014.

7 The DoD announced the criteria for the Afghanistan and Iraq Campaign Medals. The beginning date for the former is 24 October 2001, and the latter 19 March 2003, each to future dates to be determined. Additional eligibility criteria are contained in Presidential Executive Order 13363.

15 The UH-1Y upgrade was approved for production as new helicopters, rather than remanufactured from existing aircraft, starting with the third lot of low-rate initial production aircraft in 2006.

18 The Joint Common Missile (JCM) completed initial F/A-18E/F Super Hornet integration wind tunnel testing at NASA Ames Research Center, San Jose, Calif., and Boeing Co., Philadelphia, Penn. The Super Hornet will be able to carry up to 12 JCMs, providing fire-and-forget and precision strike targeting capabilities.

20 The Navy announced the establishment of the Combat Meritorious Advancement Program, allowing commanders to advance junior enlisted sailors who display uncommon valor and extraordinary leadership while engaged in, or operating in direct support of, combat.

25 Boeing Co., St. Louis, Mo., was awarded a \$14.5 million contract to provide ScanEagle unmanned aerial vehicles, communications links, and ground equipment for the Navy.

29 A multinational force—including the cruiser *Normandy* (CG 60) and her embarked SH-60 Seahawk of HSL-42 Det 1, the coastal patrol ships *Firebolt* (PC 10) and *Typhoon* (PC 5), and the German frigate *Karlsruhe* (F 212)—rescued 89 people from a dhow which capsized in the Gulf of Aden off the coast of Somalia.

29 President George W. Bush signed a memorandum for the Secretary of Defense approving the redesignation of the Naval Reserve to the Navy Reserve.

May

7 The UH-1Y and AH-1Z made their first shipboard landings during testing on board the amphibious assault ship *Bataan* (LHD 5) off the Virginia Capes. The two H-1 upgrade aircraft, Y-2 and Z-3, completed 127 landings and 13.4 flight hours, and 140 and 14.5, respectively, over six days.

8 Marine Fighter Attack Squadron 323 and Strike Fighter Squadron 147 F/A-18C Hornets, operating from *Carl Vinson* (CVN 70), dropped a total of six precision bombs on insurgent forces south of Samarra, Iraq, while conducting airborne presence and security missions supporting coalition forces.

9 The MH-60R Seahawk entered operational evaluation with Air Test and Evaluation Squadron 1.

11 *Carl Vinson* (CVN 70) coordinated the rescue of all 27 sailors from the Panamanian-flagged motor vessel *Olympias*, 27 miles off the Iranian coast in the Arabian Gulf. As an engine room fire engulfed *Olympias*, the carrier directed the destroyer *Mustin* (DDG 89) and her embarked SH-60B Seahawk of Helicopter Antisubmarine Squadron Light 45 Det 5 to the vessel's aid.

12 Capt. Eugene A. Cernan, USN (Ret.) received NASA's first Ambassador of Exploration Award, which recognizes the sacrifices and dedication of the Mercury, Gemini, and Apollo astronauts. A former

Naval Aviator, Capt. Cernan flew three times in space, and twice to the moon. He is the second American to walk in space, and commanded Apollo 17, the last human mission to the moon, in December 1972.

12 Northrop Grumman Corp. announced it was awarded a \$3.2 billion contract to continue production work on center/aft fuselage and twin vertical tail assemblies for the F/A-18E/F Super Hornet and the EA-18G Growler.

14 The ex-carrier *America* (CV 66) was sunk off the East Coast as a live-fire test and evaluation and weapons



Pilots of a Fleet Logistics Support Squadron 40 C-2A Greyhound give the “hands off” signal during preflight checks aboard *Harry S. Truman* (CVN 75) on 13 January 2005. Photo by PHAN Ricardo Reyes.



ELECTRONIC ATTACK EXPEDITIONARY SQUADRON DEPLOYMENTS, 2005

MCAS Iwakuni, Japan

VAQ-142 Oct 04–Apr 05
VAQ-209 Apr 05–Jun 05

Bagram Air Base, Afghanistan

VAQ-133 Aug 04–Jan 05
VAQ-136 Jan 05–?????
VMAQ-3 Jan 05–Aug 05
VAQ-134 Jul 05–Jan 06

Tallil Air Base, Iraq

VMAQ-2 Jul 04–Jan 05

Al Asad Air Base, Iraq

VMAQ-4 Jan 05–Jul 05
VMAQ-1 Jul 05–Jan 06
VAQ-135 Det ?????
VAQ-141 Det Sep 05?–Nov?

Marines with Marine Tactical Electronic Warfare Squadron 1 conduct turnaround inspections on an EA-6B Prowler at Al Asad Air Base, Iraq, on 28 July 2005. Photo by Sgt. Juan Vara.

effect platform for CVN 21. Commissioned on 23 January 1965, *America* deployed three times for the Vietnam War, helped liberate Kuwait during Operation Desert Storm, enforced no-fly zones over Iraq, and participated in Operations Restore Hope in Somalia and Uphold Democracy in Haiti, together with NATO operations in Bosnia. *America* was decommissioned on 30 September 1996.

18 A subsidiary of Raytheon Co., Indianapolis, Ind., was awarded a \$17 million contract to produce LAU-115 and LAU-116 launchers for the F/A-18E/F Super Hornet.

25 The amphibious assault ship *Saipan* (LHA 2) was among the ships that surged from NS Norfolk, Va., under the Fleet Response Plan for three months to the European and Central Command areas of responsibility, to conduct maritime security operations.

25 The Boeing Co. announced that the ScanEagle

unmanned aerial vehicle surpassed 3,000 combat flight hours during ten months of operations in Iraq.

June

1 The Naval Test Parachute Team was disestablished at NAWC China Lake, Calif.

2 Northrop Grumman announced that it began construction of the X-47B Joint Unmanned Combat Air System, at St. Louis, Mo. The X-47B will operate from aircraft carriers and ashore.

4 *Carl Vinson* (CVN 70) and *Mustin* (DDG 89) assisted the Iranian-flagged fishing dhow *Henif* in the Arabian Gulf. The destroyer's rigid hull inflatable boat evacuated a critically ill crew member from *Henif* to *Mustin*, and an SH-60 Seahawk of HSL-45 Det 5 flew him to the carrier for treatment.

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CARRIER AND AIR WING DEPLOYMENTS, 2005

Harry S. Truman (CVN 75)

CVW-3 (Tail Code AC)

Med/Arabian Gulf

13 Oct 04–18 Apr 05

Squadron	Aircraft
VF-32	F-14B
VFA-37	F/A-18C
VFA-105	F/A-18C
VMFA-115 (VE)*	F/A-18A
VAW-126	E-2C
VAQ-130	EA-6B
VRC-40 Det 1	C-2A
VS-22	S-3B
HS-7	SH-60F/HH-60H

Carl Vinson (CVN 70)

CVW-9 (Tail Code NG)

WestPac/Arabian Gulf/Atlantic

01 Feb 05–31 July 05

Squadron	Aircraft
VFA-146	F/A-18C
VFA-147	F/A-18C
VFA-154	F/A-18F
VMFA-323 (WS)*	F/A-18C
VAW-112	E-2C
VAQ-138	EA-6B
VRC-30 Det 4	C-2A
VS-33	S-3B
HS-8	SH-60F/HH-60H

Kitty Hawk (CV 63)

CVW-5 (Tail Code NF)

WestPac

23 May 05–20 Aug 05

Squadron	Aircraft
VFA-27	F/A-18E
VFA-102	F/A-18F
VFA-192	F/A-18C
VFA-195	F/A-18C
VAW-115	E-2C
VAQ-136	EA-6B
VRC-30 Det 5	C-2A
HS-14	SH-60F/HH-60H
HSL-51 Det 3	SH-60B

Abraham Lincoln (CVN 72)

CVW-2 (Tail Code NE)

WestPac

19 Oct 04–01 Mar 05

Squadron	Aircraft
VFA-2	F/A-18F
VFA-82	F/A-18C
VFA-137	F/A-18E
VFA-151	F/A-18C
VAW-116	E-2C
VAQ-131	EA-6B
VRC-30 Det 4	C-2A
HSL-47	SH-60B
HS-2	SH-60F/HH-60H

Nimitz (CVN 68)

CVW-11 (Tail Code NH)

WestPac/Arabian Gulf

07 May 05–08 Nov 05

Squadron	Aircraft
VFA-14	F/A-18E
VFA-41	F/A-18F
VFA-94	F/A-18C
VMFA-232 (WT)*	F/A-18C
VAW-117	E-2C
VAQ-135	EA-6B
VRC-30 Det 3	C-2A
HS-6	SH-60F/HH-60H

Theodore Roosevelt (CVN 71)

CVW-8 (Tail Code AJ)

Med/Arabian Gulf

01 Sep 05–11 Mar 06

Squadron	Aircraft
VF-31	F-14D
VF-213	F-14D
VFA-15	F/A-18C
VFA-87	F/A-18C
VAW-124	E-2C
VAQ-141	EA-6B
VRC-40 Det 1	C-2A
VS-24	S-3B
HS-3	SH-60F/HH-60H

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

Carl Vinson (CVN 70), foreground, relieves Harry S. Truman (CVN 75) in the Arabian Gulf on 19 March 2005. Photo by PH3 Ryan O'Connor.







An F/A-18F Super Hornet from Strike Fighter Squadron 102 prepares to launch from the flight deck of *Kitty Hawk* (CV 63) during operations in the western Pacific Ocean on 11 November 2005. Photo by PH3 Jonathan Chandler.



8 The ScanEagle unmanned aerial vehicle completed 12 days of sea trials on board the amphibious transport dock *Cleveland* (LPD 7) off southern California, completing 4 launches and captures and 68 approaches.

13 The second RQ-4A Global Hawk Maritime Demonstrator completed its first flight, from Northrop Grumman facilities in Palmdale, Calif., to Edwards AFB. The two demonstrators will help determine the

unmanned aerial vehicle's ability to patrol coastal and overwater areas.

15 The AN/AES-1 Airborne Laser Mine Detection System, designed to be integrated into H-60 Seahawk aircraft, was approved for low rate initial production.

18 Marine Tiltrotor Test and Evaluation Squadron 22 completed operational evaluation of the MV-22 Osprey.



Marines with the 26th Marine Expeditionary Unit exit a CH-53E Super Stallion during drills aboard *Kearsarge* (LHD 3) on 15 April 2005. Photo by PHAN Christopher J. Newsome.

MAJOR HMM (REINFORCED)/AMPHIBIOUS ASSAULT CARRIER DEPLOYMENTS, 2005

Essex (LHD 2)*

HMM-265(R) (Tail Code EP)
IO

23 Aug 04–06 Apr 05

Squadron	Aircraft
VMA-211 Det	AV-8B
HMM-265	CH-46E
HMH-463 Det	CH-53D
HMLA-369 Det	UH-1N/AH-1W
HC-5 Det 6 (RB)**	MH-60S
HM-15 Det (TB)	MH-53E
HMM-262 Det (ET)	CH-46E
HC-5 Det 3 (RB)	MH-60S

HC-11 Det ? (VR)**

MH-60S

Bonhomme Richard (LHD 6)

HMM-165(R) (Tail Code YW)
Westpac/IO

06 Dec 04–06 Jun 05

Squadron	Aircraft
VMA-513	AV-8B
HMM-165	CH-46E
HMH-462 Det	CH-53E
HMLA-267 Det	UH-1N/AH-1W
HC-11 Det 4 (VR)**	MH-60S

Kearsarge (LHD 3)

HMM-162(R) (Tail Code YS)
Med/IO

25 Mar 05–27 Sep 05

Squadron	Aircraft
VMA-231 Det	AV-8B
HMM-162	CH-46E
HMH-464 Det	CH-53E
HMLA-269 Det	UH-1N/AH-1W
HC-8 Det 2 (BR)**	MH-60S

Tarawa (LHA 1)

HMM-163(R) (Tail Code YP)
Westpac/IO/Med

16 Jul 05–20 Feb 06

Squadron	Aircraft
VMA-211 Det	AV-8B
HMM-163	CH-46E
HMH Det	CH-53E
HMLA Det	UH-1N/AH-1W

21 An MH-60S of Helicopter Sea Combat Squadron 28 Det 2, based on *Kearsarge* (LHD 3), was directed to an Iranian fishing dhow that was stranded and taking on water in the Arabian Gulf. The crew provided the nine people on board the dhow with food and gasoline, though the Iranians refused further assistance.

22 Australia's 5th Aviation Regiment, equipped with S70A-9 Black Hawks, completed more than 1,200

takeoffs and landings during 10 days of operations on *Boxer* (LHD 4) during Exercise Talisman Sabre.

22 Lt. Jason Wells of Training Squadron 4 and Ens. Luis Diez flew the last T-34C Turbo-Mentor training flight of Training Air Wing 6, NAS Pensacola, Fla.

23 Marine Fighter Attack Squadron 323, operating from *Carl Vinson* (CVN 70), dropped bombs on caves being used by Iraqi insurgents.



An F/A-18D Hornet assigned to Marine All Weather Fighter Attack Squadron 332 taxis down the runway after landing at Al Asad Air Base, Iraq, on 22 October 2005. Photo by LCpl. Sheila M. Brook.

25 An F/A-18F Super Hornet of Strike Fighter Squadron 154, flying from *Carl Vinson* (CVN 70), dropped a precision-guided bomb on Iraqi insurgents in the vicinity of Hit, Iraq.

30 *Carl Vinson* (CVN 70) concluded operations supporting Operation Iraqi Freedom and maritime surveillance operations in the Arabian Gulf, transiting the Strait of Hormuz on 1 July. While in the Gulf, Carrier Air Wing 9 logged more than 6,500 sorties totaling over 20,000 flight hours.

July

An F/A-18E Super Hornet engaged moving land targets during a demonstration at NAWC China Lake, Calif. The Super Hornet used Advanced Targeting Forward-Looking Infrared to track a radio-controlled truck, guiding an inert 2,000 pound MK 84 BLU-109 Joint Direct Attack Munition to within two meters of the truck, demonstrating the accuracy needed to destroy most moving targets in actual operations.



5 VAdm. James B. Stockdale, USN (Ret.), died at age 81 after a battle with Alzheimer's disease. A Naval Aviator and test pilot, VAdm. Stockdale received the Medal of Honor for the heroic example he set as a POW in North Vietnam. On 9 September 1965, North Vietnamese automatic weapons fire shot down Cdr. Stockdale's A-4E Skyhawk after he completed a bombing attack against railroad cars south of Thanh Hoa. During seven and a half years in captivity, he designed a prisoner communication system and a set of rules that gave his

fellow prisoners both strength and hope to endure their ordeal.

7 The next-generation presidential helicopter received its mission design series designator of VH-71A.

22 The RQ-8B Fire Scout unmanned aerial vehicle test fired two Hydra 2.75-inch unguided rockets at Yuma Proving Grounds, Ariz. The Fire Scout is slated to deploy operationally in FY09 on board the Littoral Combat Ship.

26 The space shuttle returned to flight for the first time since the *Columbia* disaster of 1 February 2003.



An SH-60B of the HSL-47 Saberhawks refuels on the flight deck of *Abraham Lincoln* (CVN 72) while another Seahawk prepares to land on 27 January 2005. The *Abraham Lincoln* carrier strike group conducted humanitarian assistance off Indonesia and Thailand in support of Operation Unified Assistance. Photo by PH3 M. Jeremie Yoder.

The crew of the space shuttle *Discovery*, mission STS-114, had three military personnel among its members including Naval Aviator Capt. Wendy Lawrence, USN. *Discovery* returned to Earth on 9 August.

28 The first production MH-60R Seahawk made its initial flight at Sikorsky Aircraft Corp., Stratford, Conn.

30 The destroyer *Halsey* (DDG 97) was commissioned, becoming the second ship to be named in honor of FAdm. William F. Halsey, Jr. (1882–1959). Halsey was awarded the Navy Cross during WWI for his actions on Atlantic convoy duty, and became a Naval Aviator in 1935 at age 52. He led a task force built around *Enterprise* (CV 6) during early raids in WWII and later commanded Allied forces in the South Pacific. Halsey also led the 3rd Fleet during the Leyte Gulf and Okinawa campaigns, 1944–1945.

August

3 The F/A-18 Hornet airframe achieved 6 million accumulated flight hours. The Navy recognized nearly 90 pilots and weapons systems officers, who were in flight at 1300 local time, with a commemorative patch and certificate of recognition.

4 Two F/A-18F Super Hornets under construction were moved from Boeing's St. Louis, Mo., assembly line

to a separate hangar for conversion into EA-18Gs.

10 Capt. Roy M. Voris, USN (Ret.), died at age 86. Capt. Voris, a WWII ace in the Pacific theater, was personally chosen by FAdm. Chester W. Nimitz in 1946 to organize a flight demonstration team to highlight Naval Aviation. On 15 June 1946, Voris led the Blue Angels, flying F6F Hellcats, in their first public performance at Craig Field in Jacksonville, Fla.

10 The Joint Unmanned Combat Air System X-45A flight test program concluded after 64 flights. During the final flight, two X-45As successfully detected and prioritized multiple simulated threats. The vehicles also avoided simulated “pop-up” threats, replanned attacks after the operator altered target priorities, and performed coordinated multiship attacks on multiple targets.

17 Boeing Co., St. Louis, Mo., was awarded an \$8.3 million modification to a previous contract for the design, development, modeling, and simulation of a training system for the EA-18G.

19 Terrorists fired three Katyusha-type rockets at the dock landing ship *Ashland* (LSD 48) and the amphibious assault ship *Kearsarge* (LHD 3) in Aqaba, Jordan. The rockets missed the ships and no sailors or Marines were hit, but a Jordanian sentry was killed and another wounded when a rocket soared over *Ashland's* bow and hit a warehouse. The ships were in Aqaba for Infinite

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MAJOR HSL DEPLOYMENTS, 2005

HSLWINGPAC

CARRIER STRIKE GROUP DEPLOYMENTS

Carrier Strike Group 9

Abraham Lincoln (CVN 72)

19 Oct 04–01 Mar 05

Squadron	Ship
HSL-47	<i>Abraham Lincoln</i> (CVN 72)*
	<i>Shiloh</i> (CG 67)
	<i>Shoup</i> (DDG 86)

Carrier Strike Group 3

Carl Vinson (CVN 70)

01 Feb 05–31 Jul 05

Squadron	Ship
HSL-49 Det ?	<i>Antietam</i> (CG 54) (01 Feb 05–19 Aug 05)
HSL-45 Det 5	<i>Mustin</i> (DDG 89) (10 Feb 05–01 Aug 05)

Carrier Strike Group 11

Nimitz (CVN 68)

07 May 05–08 Nov 05

Squadron	Ship
HSL-43 Det 6	<i>Princeton</i> (CG 59)
HSL-37 Det 1	<i>Chafee</i> (DDG 90) (20 May 05–09 Nov 05)

Carrier Strike Group 5

Kitty Hawk (CV 63)

23 May 05–20 Aug 05

Squadron	Ship
HSL-51 Det 2	<i>Cowpens</i> (CG 63) (17 May 05–24 Jul 05)
HSL-51 Det 1	<i>Vandegrift</i> (FFG 48) (09 May 05–10 Aug 05)

EXPEDITIONARY STRIKE GROUP DEPLOYMENTS

Expeditionary Strike Group 5

Bonhomme Richard (LHD 6)

06 Dec 04–06 June 05

Squadron	Ship
HSL-49 Det 2	<i>Bunker Hill</i> (CG 52)
HSL-43 Det 4	<i>Thach</i> (FFG 53)

Expeditionary Strike Group 1

Tarawa (LHA 1)

16 Jul 05–20 Feb 06

Squadron	Ship
HSL-37 Det 4	<i>Chosin</i> (CG 65)
HSL-49 Det 4	<i>Ingraham</i> (FFG 61)

INDIVIDUAL DEPLOYMENTS

Squadron	Dates	Ship
HSL-45 Det 6	02 Aug 04–02 Feb 05	<i>Curtis</i> (FFG 38)
HSL-51 Det 11	26 Jan 05–04 Apr 05	<i>Blue Ridge</i> (LCC 19)
HSL-51 Det 5	08 Feb 05–08 Apr 05	<i>Gary</i> (FFG 51)
HSL-45 Det 2	25 Apr 05–01 Oct 05	<i>Jarrett</i> (FFG 33)
HSL-45 Det 1	29 Apr 05–01 Oct 05	<i>Rodney M. Davis</i> (FFG 60)
HSL-51 Det 11	16 May 05–22 Jul 05	<i>Blue Ridge</i> (LCC 19)
HSL-45 Det 3	01 Aug 05–20 Dec 05	<i>McClusky</i> (FFG 41)
HSL-43 Det 6	07 Jan 05–28 Jun 05	<i>Rentz</i> (FFG 46)
HSL-43 Det 2	30 Sep 05–24 Feb 06	<i>Pinckney</i> (DDG 91)

Note: In 2005 the HSL community began transitioning to HSM. See chart on page 43 for official redesignation dates.

HSLWINGLANT

Carrier Strike Group Deployments

Carrier Strike Group 10

Harry S. Truman (CVN 75)

13 Oct 04–08 Apr 05

Squadron	Ship
HSL-46 Det 4	<i>Monterey</i> (CG 61)
HSL-46 Det 1	<i>Mason</i> (DDG 87)

Carrier Strike Group 2

Theodore Roosevelt (CVN 74)

01 Sep 05–11 Mar 06

Squadron	Ship
HSL-44 Det 8	<i>San Jacinto</i> (CG 56)
HSL-44 Det 7	<i>Ocsar Austin</i> (DDG 79)

EXPEDITIONARY STRIKE GROUP DEPLOYMENTS

Expeditionary Strike Group ?

Kearsarge (LHD 3)

25 Mar 05–27 Sep 05

Squadron	Ship
HSL-42 Det 1	<i>Normandy</i> (CG 60) (22 Mar 05–23 Sep 05)
HSL-42 Det 3	<i>Kauffman</i> (FFG 59) (22 Mar 05–23 Sep 05)
HSL-42 Det 5	<i>Hawes</i> (FFG 53) (16 May 05–15 Nov 05)

Expeditionary Strike Group 2?

Saipan (LHD 3)

25 May 05–15 Aug 05

Squadron	Ship
HSL-42 Det 6	<i>Nicholas</i> (FFG 47)

Expeditionary Strike Group 8

Nassau (LHA 4)

07 Nov 05–04 May 06

Squadron	Ship
HSL-44 Det 4	<i>Cape St. George</i> (CG 71) (04 Nov 05–04 May 06)
HSL-44 Det 10	<i>Winston S. Churchill</i> (DDG) (04 Nov 05–02 May 06)

INDIVIDUAL DEPLOYMENTS

Squadron	Dates	Ship
HSL-44 Det 1	20 Aug 04–13 Feb 05	<i>Underwood</i> (FFG 36)
HSL-48 Det 3	20 Aug 04–13 Feb 05	<i>Hue City</i> (CG 66)
HSL-60 Det 2**	08 Oct 04–08 Apr 05	<i>Boone</i> (FFG 40)
HSL-48 Det 7	08 Oct 04–08 Apr 05	<i>Halyburton</i> (FFG 40)
HSL-44 Det 9	28 Nov 04–06 Jun 05	<i>Taylor</i> (FFG 50)
HSL-48 Det 6	29 Nov 04–28 May 05	<i>O'Bannon</i> (DD 987)
HSL-48 Det 4	08 Jan 05–15 Jul 05	<i>McInerney</i> (FFG 8)
HSL-46 Det 3	04 Apr 05–04 Oct 05	<i>Doyle</i> (FFG 39)
HSL-46 Det 6	04 Apr 05–04 Oct 05	<i>Robert G. Bradley</i> (FFG 49)
HSL-60 Det 1**	25 May 05–22 Sep 05	<i>Philippine Sea</i> (CG 58)
HSL-42 Det 10	23 Jun 05–27 Aug 05	<i>Samuel B. Roberts</i> (FFG 58)
HSL-48 Det 1	28 Jun 05–01 Sep 05	<i>Thomas S. Gates</i> (CG 51)
HSL-46 Det 7	19 Jul 05–20 Dec 05	<i>Klakring</i> (FFG 42)
HSL-42 Det 10	22 Sep 05–05 Dec 05	<i>Samuel B. Roberts</i> (FFG 58)
HSL-46 Det 5	11 Oct 05–04 Apr 06	<i>Gettysburg</i> (CG 64)
HSL-44 Det 3	25 Nov 05–present	<i>Carr</i> (FFG 52)
HSL-48 Det 9	05 Dec 05–present	<i>DeWert</i> (FFG 45)

* HSL-47 was the first LAMPS squadron deployed to a carrier. The squadron provided LAMPS dets to the other ships of the strike group.

** Deployed reserve squadron detachment



DISASTER RELIEF OPERATIONS IN A TIME OF WAR

Throughout 2005, a series of natural catastrophes posed extensive challenges for the Navy both at home and abroad. In many cases Naval Aviation assets arrived on scene ahead of aid agencies, rescuing hundreds of victims and delivering supplies and emergency personnel to otherwise inaccessible areas. The following brief summaries of these events demonstrate not individual responses to disasters, but the scale and magnitude of Naval Aviation's commitment to humanitarian efforts in 2005.

Tsunami Relief

The tsunami that resulted from the 26 December 2004 earthquake in the Indian Ocean killed nearly 200,000 people. Naval Aviation was a key player in the multinational response to the disaster, known as Operation Unified Assistance, under Combined Support Force (CSF) 536.

The *Abraham Lincoln* (CVN 72) carrier strike group arrived on station off Sumatra on 1 January, and HS-2 and HSL-47 began transporting relief supplies the same day. These squadrons logged a total of 1,747 missions. The *Bonhomme Richard* (LHD 6) expeditionary strike group (ESG) arrived from Guam on 4 January. The 15th MEU's air combat element (ACE) and aircraft from other elements of the ESG assisted in relief efforts. The *Essex* (LHD 2) ESG relieved the *Bonhomme Richard* ESG on 18 January, commencing relief operations the next morning. Because the ACE of *Essex*'s 31st MEU was deployed in Iraq, the ship had gathered reinforcements to support her embarked HC-5 det, including four MH-53E Sea Dragons from HM-15 Det 2 based in Bahrain, six CH-46E Sea Knights from

Okinawa, Japan, and two more HC-5 MH-60Ss from *Niagara Falls* (T-AFS 3).

P-3C Orion crews from VP-4 and VP-8 relayed images of ravaged areas to support centers, enabling analysts to effectively direct relief efforts. Other Naval Aviation assets participating included VRC-30, HC-11, VMGR-352, and a Coast Guard HC-130 Hercules. The "Gray Angel," as local residents began calling *Abraham Lincoln*, came about from Indonesian waters on 3 February and CSF-536 ceased relief operations on 14 February.

Katrina: A Catastrophe at Home

Hurricane Katrina made landfall on the U.S. Gulf Coast on 29 August, devastating the region. The catastrophic storm surge led to the failure of levees around New Orleans, La., flooding 80 percent of the city. Search and rescue flights by Naval Aviation assets began that same afternoon. Among the first to arrive on scene were six E-2C Hawkeyes from VAW-77, VAW-121, and VAW-126, which were instrumental in monitoring the airspace and directing rescue aircraft. During a two-hour period on 4 September alone, these Hawkeye crews coordinated the rescue of more than 400 people, as well as two major food drops and four medical evacuations.

Bataan (LHD 5) augmented her two embarked HSC-28 MH-60Ss with four HM-15 MH-53Es from NAS Corpus Christi, Texas, and steamed toward New Orleans, where the aircraft began relief operations late in the afternoon of 30 August. Additional forces deployed from the East Coast, including *Iwo Jima* (LHD 7) and two other amphibious warfare ships. On 4

September, *Iwo Jima* moored in downtown New Orleans to become a hub for both civilian and military helos flying over the center of the city, and was subsequently designated HQ, Joint Task Force Katrina. *Harry S. Truman* (CVN 75) also deployed to the area on 1 September with elements of 13 helicopter squadrons embarked.

Additional Naval Aviation units supporting the relief effort included MH-60s from HSL-43, HSL-47, HSL-49, and HC-11; two CH-46Es and six CH-53Es from three Marine squadrons from MCAS New River, N.C.; four CH-53Es from HMH-772; and VR-57 and VR-58. During the height of operations over 350 helos from all the services and more than 70 fixed wing aircraft were on station.

Haiti Relief

Operation New Horizons, an annual Southern Command exercise that provides readiness training for engineering and medical commands, focused its 2005 efforts on Haiti. That nation was still recovering from massive devastation caused by Hurricane Jeanne in September 2004, which killed more than 2,000 people and left 300,000 homeless. The amphibious assault ships *Saipan* (LHA 2) and *Nassau* (LHA 4), HC-6, HSC-28, HM-14, and VR-55 all participated in the February–June operation.

More Hurricanes at Home

In September Hurricane Rita approached the Gulf Coast. In light of the destruction caused by Hurricane

Katrina a month earlier, Navy Region South ordered an evacuation of all naval installations in south Texas, including NAS Corpus Christi and NAS Kingsville. In October the approach of Hurricane Wilma led to the evacuation of NAS Key West, Fla., and much of the installation was flooded by the storm. The amphibious assault ship *Wasp* (LHD 1) and other assets assisted victims of Wilma in Florida.

Pakistan Earthquake

On 10 October, two days after a massive 7.6 magnitude earthquake near the Pakistani-Indian border killed more than 73,000 people and left nearly three million homeless, RAdm. Michael A. LeFever, Commander of the *Tarawa* (LHA 1) ESG, was designated Coordinator, Disaster Assistance Center, Pakistan, and arrived in Islamabad with some of his staff.

Among service members responding were elements of the *Tarawa* ESG and their embarked aircraft. Other Naval Aviation forces assisted with the relief efforts, including two MH-53Es of HM-15, two MH-60Ss of HSC-26, an EP-3 det from VQ-2, a C-9B Skytrain of VR-56, and a C-130T of VR-64. Army, Air Force and allied aircrews also participated in the operations. By 13 February 2006 service members had flown more than 4,000 missions, delivering more than 11,000 tons of supplies and transporting more than 18,000 people.

Additional stories related to some of these events are included in past issues of *NA News*, as follows: tsunami relief—Mar/Apr 05, May/Jun 05, and Jul/Aug 05; Katrina response—Nov/Dec 05 and Jan/Feb 06; Pakistan assistance, Jan/Feb 06.

Facing page, an SH-60B Seahawk from HSL-43 lands on the flight deck of *Harry S. Truman* (CVN 75) in the Gulf of Mexico on 10 September 2005. *Truman* was part of a massive relief effort to the areas ravaged by Hurricane Katrina. Photo by PH3 Eric S. Garst. Right, an SH-60F from HS-2 delivers relief supplies on the island of Sumatra, Indonesia, on 17 January 2005 in the aftermath of the tsunami that devastated parts of southeastern Asia. Photo by PH3 Bernardo Fuller.



Moonlight, a two-week exercise with the Jordanian military. Although standing out of the Red Sea port, the ships maintained their presence in the area with helicopter and air cushion landing craft operations until 25 August. The Abdullah Azzam Brigades, a group linked with al Qaeda, claimed responsibility for the attack.

September

1 Fleet Air Reconnaissance Squadron 2 changed homeport from NS Rota, Spain, to NAS Whidbey Island, Wash., as part of the Navy's transformation of forces in Europe.

6 Helicopter Combat Support Squadron 4 changed homeport from NAS Sigonella, Sicily, to NS Norfolk, Va., as part of the Navy's transformation of forces in Europe.

14 *Boxer* (LHD 4) returned to San Diego, Calif., after a four and a half month surge deployment to the Pacific.

14 Helicopter Combat Support Squadron 2 Det 2 passed the mission of combat logistics in the Naval Forces Central Command area of responsibility to Helicopter Sea Combat Squadron 26 Det 1, concluding 27 years with a permanent detachment at Bahrain.

28 The Defense Acquisition Board cleared the MV-22 Osprey for full-rate production. Deliveries of new Ospreys will primarily be to squadrons at MCAS New River, N.C., through approximately 2010. The Marine Corps intends to procure as many as 360 aircraft total.

30 Carrier Airborne Early Warning Wing, Atlantic Fleet merged with Carrier Airborne Early Warning Wing, Pacific Fleet to become Commander, Airborne Command Control and Logistics Wing. COMAC-CLOGWING became the Type Wing Commander for all E-2C Hawkeye and C-2A Greyhound squadrons.

30 Sea Control Wing, U.S. Pacific Fleet was deactivated at NAS North Island, Calif. The administrative duties for the remaining Pacific Fleet VS squadrons was taken over by Sea Control Wing, U.S. Atlantic Fleet.

MAJOR HC/HSC SQUADRON DEPLOYMENTS, 2005

HELSEACOMBATWINGLANT

Squadron	Date	Ship/Location
HC-4 Det 1	*	Fujairah, UAE
HC-2 Det 1	**–Nov 05	<i>LaSalle</i> (AGF 3)/ <i>Mount Whitney</i> (LCC/JCC 20)/Naples, Italy***
HC-2 Det 2	**–Sep 05	Manama, Bahrain [†]
HM-15 Det 2	**	Manama, Bahrain
HC-4	**–Sep 04	Sigonella, Italy ^{††}
HC-6 Det 5	Oct 04–Apr 05	<i>Arctic</i> (TAOE 8)
HC-8 Det 2	Mar 05–Sep 05	<i>Kearsarge</i> (LHD 3)
HC-6 Det 2	May 05–Aug 05	<i>Saipan</i> (LHA 2)
HSC-26 Det 4	Sep 05–Mar 06	????
HSC-26 Det 1	Sep 05–**	Manama, Bahrain [†]
HSC-28 Det 6	Nov 05–May 06	<i>Nassau</i> (LHA 4)
HSC-28 Det 7	Nov 05–**	<i>Mount Whitney</i> (LCC/JCC 20)/Naples, Italy***

HELSEACOMBATWINGPAC

Squadron	Date	Ship/Location
HC-5 Det 6	Aug 04–Apr 05	<i>Essex</i> (LHD 2)
HC-5 Det 1	Nov 04–May 05	<i>San Jose</i> (TAFS 7)
HC-11 Det 4	Dec 04–Jun 05	<i>Bonhomme Richard</i> (LHD 6)
HC-5 Det 3	Jan 05–Mar 05	<i>Niagara Falls</i> (TAFS 3)/ <i>Essex</i> (LHD 2)/ <i>Concord</i> (TAFS 5)/ <i>Swift</i> (HSV 2)
HC-5 Det 2	Jan 05–Mar 05	<i>Kiska</i> (TAE 35)
HC-5 Det 4	Feb 05–May 05	<i>Niagara Falls</i> (TAFS 3)
HC-11 Det 6	Feb 05–Jul 05	<i>Camden</i> (AOE 2)
HC-11 Det ?	May 05–Nov 05	<i>Bridge</i> (TAOE 10)
HC-5 Det 6	May 05–Aug 05	<i>Boxer</i> (LHD 4)
HC-5 Det 4	Jun 05–Oct 05	<i>San Jose</i> (TAFS 7)
HC-11 Det ?	Jul 05–Feb 06	<i>Tarawa</i> (LHA 1)
HC-5 Det 6	Sep 05–Dec 05	<i>Essex</i> (LHD 2)
HSC-25 Det 3	Oct 05–Dec 05	<i>Flint</i> (TAE 32)
HSC-25 Det 5	Nov 05–present	Camp Buehring, Kuwait

Note: In 2005 many of the HC squadrons were redesignated HSC squadrons. Please see the Aviation Command Changes chart on page 43 for official redesignation dates.

* Permanent detachment

** Forward deployed

*** HC-2 Det 1 deactivated in September 2005 after being forward deployed for 18 years, and was replaced by HSC-28 Det 7. Sixth Fleet flagship *LaSalle* was replaced in February 2005 by *Mount Whitney*.

[†] HC-2 Det 2 deactivated in November 2005 after being forward deployed for 27 years, and was replaced by HSC-26 Det 1.

^{††} HC-4 changed homeport to Norfolk, Va., after being established as a forward deployed unit at Sigonella since 1983.



Antiterrorism Security Team Marines conduct cast and recovery training with an HSC-26 MH-60S Seahawk in the Mediterranean Sea on 25 June 2005. The Marines were underway with *Nashville* (LPD 13) while participating in Barbary Thunder II. Photo by PH2 Steven Weber.

October

McClusky (FFG 41), with Helicopter Antisubmarine Squadron Light 45 Det 3 and a Coast Guard law enforcement detachment embarked, completed a second major drug interdiction during her deployment to the eastern Pacific by seizing the fishing vessel *Jose Antonio*, which was carrying almost 3 tons of cocaine. Earlier during her deployment *McClusky* intercepted a high-speed boat carrying 3.5 tons of cocaine with a street value of nearly \$100 million.

12 Air Force Headquarters Material Command,

Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio, which manages the process of naming all military aircraft, confirmed the name “Growler” for the Navy’s next generation electronic attack aircraft. The EA-18G Growler will replace the EA-6B Prowler.

13 *Belleau Wood* (LHA 3) was decommissioned at NS San Diego, Calif., after 27 years of service.

20 *Dwight D. Eisenhower* (CVN 69) completed sea trials after a four year mid-life refueling and complex overhaul and a four month post-shakedown availability period.

continued on page 41

AIRCRAFT STRICKEN IN 2005

Aircraft	BuNo	Date	Aircraft	BuNo	Date	Aircraft	BuNo	Date
AH-1W	160811	28 Mar	F-14B	161437	17 Oct	HH-46D	150963	14 Apr
AH-1W	160817	14 Jun	F-14B	161438	17 Oct	HH-46D	152530	28 Mar
AH-1W	162542	17 Nov	F-14B	161440	28 Feb	HH-60H	163794	09 Feb
AH-1W	165321	02 Nov	F-14B	161441	27 Jul	KC-130F	148246	30 Nov
AV-8B	164123	06 Dec	F-14B	161442	27 Jul	KC-130F	149788	20 Apr
AV-8B	164127	15 Jun	F-14B	161608	28 Feb	KC-130F	149791	20 Apr
AV-8B	164150	27 Jul	F-14B	161858	28 Feb	KC-130F	149792	20 Apr
AV-8B	165418	13 Jan	F-14B	161859	12 Oct	KC-130F	149798	01 Mar
CH-46E	153983	31 Oct	F-14B	161860	05 Oct	KC-130F	149806	20 Apr
CH-53E	164536	26 Jan	F-14B	161862	17 Oct	KC-130F	149812	20 Apr
DC-9	164605	17 Oct	F-14B	161870	20 Apr	LC-130F	148320	20 Apr
DC-9	164607	03 Jun	F-14B	162694	04 Oct	MH-53E	162498	25 Jan
E-2C	161346	28 Jun	F-14B	162695	27 Jul	MH-53E	162505	08 Apr
E-2C	161783	28 Jun	F-14B	162699	20 Apr	MH-53E	163053	08 Apr
E-2C	162615	28 Jun	F-14B	162700	27 Jul	NF/A-18A	162445	17 Oct
E-2C	162798	28 Jan	F-14B	162701	27 Jul	NF-14A	161609	28 Feb
E-2C	162802	28 Feb	F-14B	162705	27 Jul	NF-14B	163223	28 Feb
EA-6B	158033	10 Aug	F-14B	162912	20 Apr	NF-14D	163415	20 Apr
EA-6B	158039	16 Nov	F-14B	162915	29 Sep	NF-14D	163416	20 Apr
EA-6B	158816	06 May	F-14B	162916	29 Sep	NT-34C	160266	13 Jan
EA-6B	160707	12 Sep	F-14B	162918	27 Jul	P-3C	156522	18 Jan
EA-6B	163402	04 May	F-14B	162919	18 Oct	P-3C	157313	20 Apr
EA-6B	163403	26 May	F-14B	162920	17 Oct	P-3C	158216	20 Apr
F/A-18A	162457	28 Feb	F-14B	162921	20 Apr	P-3C	160286	20 Apr
F/A-18A	162463	28 Feb	F-14B	162922	20 Apr	P-3C	160611	03 Aug
F/A-18A	162464	06 Jan	F-14B	162925	17 Oct	P-3C	161128	17 Oct
F/A-18A	162468	28 Feb	F-14B	162926	16 Mar	P-3C	161330	27 Jul
F/A-18A	162835	27 Jul	F-14B	162927	20 Jan	P-3C	161340	17 Oct
F/A-18A	162838	27 Apr	F-14B	163216	29 Sep	S-3B	158861	20 Apr
F/A-18A	162860	20 Apr	F-14B	163217	27 Jul	S-3B	158863	28 Feb
F/A-18A	162879	20 Apr	F-14B	163218	27 Jul	S-3B	158866	27 Jul
F/A-18A	162894	17 Oct	F-14B	163220	27 Jul	S-3B	158870	28 Feb
F/A-18A	163095	17 Oct	F-14B	163226	20 Apr	S-3B	158871	20 Apr
F/A-18A	163119	02 Mar	F-14B	163227	17 Oct	S-3B	158872	20 Apr
F/A-18A	163152	04 Apr	F-14B	163229	27 Jul	S-3B	158873	20 Apr
F/A-18C	163461	14 Oct	F-14B	163407	27 Jul	S-3B	159390	27 Jul
F/A-18C	164007	08 Jul	F-14B	163408	28 Feb	S-3B	159416	28 Feb
F/A-18C	164700	07 Jul	F-14B	163409	17 Oct	S-3B	159729	20 Apr
F/A-18C	164721	02 May	F-14B	163410	29 Sep	S-3B	159745	20 Apr
F/A-18C	164732	02 May	F-14D	163413	19 Jul	S-3B	159751	28 Feb
F/A-18E	165662	18 Jul	F-14D	163414	21 Mar	S-3B	159762	17 Oct
F/A-18F	165670	18 Jul	F-14D	163895	27 Apr	S-3B	159769	17 Oct
F/A-18F	165895	29 Jan	F-14D	163896	25 Apr	S-3B	159771	28 Feb
F-14A	158628	20 Apr	F-14D	163898	11 Jan	S-3B	160123	02 Jun
F-14A	158632	20 Apr	F-14D	163900	22 Sep	S-3B	160125	17 Oct
F-14A	158635	28 Feb	F-14D	163903	21 Sep	S-3B	160127	27 Jul
F-14A	161274	20 Apr	F-14D	164599	20 Apr	S-3B	160128	17 Oct
F-14A	161297	20 Apr	F-14D	164601	20 Sep	S-3B	160129	17 Oct
F-14A	161603	20 Apr	F-5E	741528	07 Jul	S-3B	160130	20 Apr
F-14A	161612	20 Apr	F-5E	741537	30 Jun	S-3B	160132	20 Apr
F-14A	161626	20 Apr	F-5E	741556	3 May	S-3B	160135	20 Apr
F-14A	162610	20 Apr	F-5E	741558	27 Jun	S-3B	160139	27 Jul
F-14B	161419	18 Oct	F-5E	741570	15 Apr	S-3B	160148	21 Sep
F-14B	161422	18 Jan	F-5E	741572	05 Jul	S-3B	160157	20 Apr
F-14B	161424	17 Oct	HH-1N	158246	10 Sep	S-3B	160158	27 Jul
F-14B	161426	09 Jun	HH-1N	158250	28 May	S-3B	160160	27 Jul
F-14B	161428	29 Sep	HH-1N	158253	31 Jan	S-3B	160163	20 Apr
F-14B	161433	11 Mar	HH-1N	158278	30 Sep	S-3B	160573	20 Apr
F-14B	161435	27 Jul	HH-46D	150941	26 Apr	S-3B	160580	28 Feb

AIRCRAFT ACCEPTED IN 2005

Aircraft	BuNo	Date
S-3B	160604	20 Apr
S-3B	160606	28 Feb
SH-60B	162986	13 Dec
SH-60B	165110	24 Sep
SH-60F	164085	22 Jun
T-2C	158328	01 Dec
T-2C	159151	27 Jul
T-34C	160271	27 Jul
T-34C	160282	18 Oct
T-34C	160463	18 Oct
T-34C	160466	18 Oct
T-34C	160467	20 Apr
T-34C	160476	18 Oct
T-34C	160477	18 Oct
T-34C	160479	18 Oct
T-34C	160483	20 Apr
T-34C	160492	18 Oct
T-34C	160502	18 Oct
T-34C	160505	18 Oct
T-34C	160513	18 Oct
T-34C	160534	27 Jul
T-34C	160643	18 Oct
T-34C	160932	18 Oct
T-34C	160957	18 Oct
T-34C	161027	18 Oct
T-34C	161028	18 Oct
T-34C	161814	18 Oct
T-34C	161843	20 Apr
T-34C	162271	18 Oct
T-34C	162276	18 Oct
T-34C	162281	18 Oct
T-34C	162301	20 Apr
TC-12B	161188	28 Feb
TC-12B	161200	17 Oct
TE-2C	163029	01 Sep
TE-2C	163848	22 Mar
TH-57B	162807	10 Aug
TH-6B	687333	12 Apr
UC-12B	161192	27 Jul
UC-12B	161506	28 Feb
UH-3H	148043	31 Mar
UH-3H	148048	08 Jul
UH-3H	148052	26 Jul
UH-3H	148965	27 Jul
UH-3H	148971	17 Oct
UH-3H	148986	17 May
UH-3H	149006	28 Sep
UH-3H	149718	25 Oct
UH-3H	149724	07 Nov
UH-3H	151528	17 Aug
UH-3H	151551	01 Mar
UH-3H	152129	20 Apr
UH-3H	152704	05 Oct
UH-3H	154100	17 Oct
VP-3A	149675	23 Sep

Bureau Number	Qty	Type	Name	Contractor
164940	1	MV-22B	Osprey	Bell/Boeing
164942	1	MV-22B	Osprey	Bell/Boeing
165635–165644	10	T-45C	Goshawk	Boeing
165822–165827	6	E-2C	Hawkeye	Northrop Grumman
165836	1	C-40A	Clipper	Boeing
165839	1	MV-22B	Osprey	Bell/Boeing
165947–165948	2	MV-22B	Osprey	Bell/Boeing
166001–166006	6	T-6A	Texan II	Raytheon/Beech
166328–166337	10	MH-60S	Seahawk	Sikorsky
166376	1	C-37B	Gulfstream	Gulfstream
166390–166391	2	MV-22B	Osprey	Bell/Boeing
166480–166491	12	MV-22B	Osprey	Bell/Boeing
166513–166514	2	KC-130J	Hercules	Lockheed Martin
166515–166517	3	MH-60R	Seahawk	Sikorsky
166604–166609	6	F/A-18E	Super Hornet	Boeing
166627–166640	14	F/A-18F	Super Hornet	Boeing
166643–166650	8	F/A-18E	Super Hornet	Boeing
166658–166669	12	F/A-18F	Super Hornet	Boeing
166712–166715	4	UC-35D	Encore	Cessna
166762–166765	4	KC-130J	Hercules	Lockheed Martin

27 The RQ-4A Global Hawk Maritime Demonstrator conducted tests over ranges off southern California to assess the capability of the Global Hawk's radar to find and track airborne targets and to transmit sensor information in real time to ground facilities.

27 Lockheed Martin Systems Integration, Oswego, N.Y., was awarded a \$76.6 million contract to complete integration and flight testing of five airborne mine countermeasures systems for the MH-60S Seahawk.

31 A team of Navy and Boeing Co. personnel began a five-day preliminary design review of the P-8A in Seattle, Wash.

November

7 The Naval Air Systems Command awarded a contract potentially worth \$2.7 million to Lockheed Martin Co. to build a dual mode laser guided bomb. This new weapon, combining a global positioning system/inertial navigation system capability with laser guided bomb capability, may be employed on F/A-18A/B/C/D Hornets, F/A-18E/F Super Hornets, and AV-8B Harrier IIs.

11 AV-8B Harrier IIs of Marine Attack Squadron 214 carrying Joint Direct Attack Munitions launched from *Peleliu* (LHA 5) off Camp Pendleton, Calif. This was the first time a Harrier launched from a ship at sea with the advanced bombs, which utilize global positioning and satellite technology.

12 VAdm. Arthur K. Cebrowski, USN (Ret.) died at age 63. Cebrowski was a Naval Aviator who had combat experience in Vietnam and Operation Desert Storm. He commanded Fighter Squadron 41, Carrier Air Wing 8, *Guam* (LPH 9), *Midway* (CV 41) and the *America* battle group. He was president of the Naval War College at the time of his retirement in 2001, and headed DoD's force transformation efforts from 26 November 2001 until 1 February 2005.

21 Northrop Grumman Corp., Newport News, Va., was awarded a \$558.6 million modification to an existing contract for continuation of work on CVN 21.

28 The Global Hawk Maritime Demonstrator began its first war game exercise, Trident Warrior '05, in sea ranges off the coast of southern California. During the



A high mobility multipurpose vehicle gets a lift from a CH-53E Super Stallion from the 2nd Marine Aircraft Wing at Al Asad Air Base, Iraq, on 3 May 2005. Photo by Cpl. Alicia M. Garcia.

twelve-day exercise, the RQ-4A Global Hawk transmitted data in real time to wargame participants on the East Coast including Commander, Second Fleet, *Iwo Jima* (LHD 7), and *Mount Whitney* (LCC 20).

December

1 *Samuel B. Roberts* (FFG 58) along with her embarked Coast Guard law enforcement detachment and a Coast Guard MH-68A Sting Ray intercepted a speedboat carrying more than 1.5 tons of cocaine in the central Caribbean Sea.

2 The Navy announced that *George Washington* (CVN 73) will replace *Kitty Hawk* (CV 63) as the forward deployed carrier in the Western Pacific, at FSA Yokosuka, Japan, in 2008. *Kitty Hawk* is slated to return to the U.S. for decommissioning that year.

2 VAdm. William P. Lawrence, USN (Ret.), died at age 75. He was the first Naval Aviator to fly twice the speed of sound in an operational aircraft (15 September 1958), a Navy nominee for Project Mercury, a POW in Vietnam, and Superintendent of the Naval Academy.

5 Helicopter Antisubmarine Squadron Light 41, NAS North Island, Calif., became the first squadron to receive the MH-60R Seahawk.

8 The Marine Corps accepted the first production Block-B MV-22 Osprey from Bell Helicopter officials during a ceremony in Amarillo, Texas.

11 An F-14D Tomcat of VF-213 conducted the first mission of a Tomcat equipped with the Remotely Operated Video Enhanced Receiver (ROVER) system, allowing a forward ground controller near Baghdad, Iraq, to see real-time images acquired by the F-14's sensors. Installation of ROVER equipment on the

Tomcats of VF-213 and VF-31, embarked on *Theodore Roosevelt* (CVN 71), had begun the previous day.

13 *Kearsarge* (LHD 3) became the first amphibious assault ship to undergo structural and equipment upgrades to handle the Marine Corps' MV-22 Osprey.

15 Seaman 2nd Class Dee Hall was buried at the Fort Sam Houston National Cemetery in San Antonio, Texas. He was one of seven crewmen aboard a Patrol Squadron 43 PBY-5 *Catalina* which took off from Kodiak Island, Alaska, on 14 June 1942 to attack Japanese targets in Kiska Harbor, Alaska, and crashed on Kiska Island. The wreckage of the plane was found in 2002, and the grave was found upon excavation of the site in 2003.

17 *John C. Stennis* (CVN 74) completed sea trials following docked planned incremental availability at Puget Sound Naval Shipyard, Bremerton, Wash.

17 *George Washington* (CVN 73) completed sea trials following docked planned incremental availability at Northrop Grumman Newport News, Va.

19 During flight tests at NAS Patuxent River, Md., an E-2C Hawkeye fitted with a refueling probe successfully connected to a KC-130 tanker to test the aircraft's inflight refueling capabilities.

22 The cruiser *Gettysburg* (CG 64), with her embarked SH-60B Seahawk of Helicopter Antisubmarine Squadron Light 46 Det 5 and a Coast Guard law enforcement detachment, intercepted a vessel carrying more than 11 tons of cocaine in the eastern Pacific Ocean.

22 Kenneth R. Krieg, Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology and Logistics, authorized a \$4.4 billion development program for the Marines' heavy lift replacement helicopter, designated CH-53K.

27 The Secretary of the Navy approved the naming of a new destroyer *Stockdale* (DDG 106), in honor of VAdm. James B. Stockdale, who passed away on 5 July.

Curtis A. Utz and Mark L. Evans are historians and Dale J. Gordon is an archivist in the Naval Historical Center's Naval Warfare Division.

AVIATION COMMAND CHANGES, 2005

Established

Commander Helicopter Sea Combat Wing, U.S. Pacific Fleet	01 Apr
Commander Helicopter Maritime Strike Wing, U.S. Atlantic Fleet	01 Apr

Decommissioned

<i>Belleau Wood</i> (LHA 3)	13 Oct
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Deactivated

Fighter Wing, U.S. Atlantic Fleet	27 Jan
VS-21	28 Feb
Naval Air Reserve Center, Columbus, OH	09 Mar
VAW-78	31 Mar
VS-35	31 Mar
Commander Helicopter Antisubmarine Wing, U.S. Atlantic Fleet	01 Apr
Commander Helicopter Antisubmarine Wing (Light), U.S. Atlantic Fleet	01 Apr
Commander Helicopter Antisubmarine Wing, U.S. Pacific Fleet	01 Apr
Commander Helicopter Tactical Wing, U.S. Pacific Fleet	01 Apr
VFA-82	30 Jun
VAQ-128	30 Sep
VF-101	30 Sep
Sea Control Wing, U. S. Pacific Fleet	30 Sep
Carrier Strike Group 14	30 Oct
Carrier Strike Group 15	30 Oct

Redesignated

Commander Helicopter Tactical Wing, U.S. Atlantic Fleet to Commander Helicopter Sea Combat Wing, U.S. Atlantic Fleet	01 Apr
Commander Helicopter Antisubmarine Wing (Light), U.S. Pacific Fleet to Commander Helicopter Maritime Strike Wing, U.S. Pacific Fleet	01 Apr
HC-8 to HSC-28	13 May
Commander Carrier Strike Group 4 to Commander Strike Force Training Atlantic	01 Aug
HC-6 to HSC-26	24 Aug
Commander Airborne Early Warning Wing, U.S. Pacific Fleet to Commander Airborne Command and Control Logistics Wing, U.S. Pacific Fleet	30 Sep
Commander Airborne Early Warning Wing, U.S. Atlantic Fleet to Commander Airborne Command and Control Logistics Wing, Det Norfolk	30 Sep
VF-11 to VFA-11	18 Oct
HC-5 to HSC-25	24 Oct
HC-3 to HSC-3	31 Oct
HC-11 to HSC-21	07 Nov
Commander Carrier Strike Group 1 to Commander Strike Force Training Pacific	07 Nov
HSL-41 to HSM-41	08 Dec