From: Commanding Officer, USS GEORGE WASHINGTON (CVN 73)
To: Director, Naval Historical Center, Ship's History Branch, 805 Kiddie Acres Street SE, Washington Navy Yard, Washington, DC 20374-5039

Subj: USS GEORGE WASHINGTON (CVN 73) COMMAND HISTORY FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2004

Ref: (a) DPKWENT 5750.10H

Enc:  (1) Command History for CY 2004
(2) Welcome Aboard Brochure
(3) Commanding Officer Biography IOC CAPT Garry White
(4) Commanding Officer Biography IOC CAPT Martin Erdosay
(5) Commanding Officer Photo IOC CAPT Garry White
(6) Commanding Officer Photo IOC CAPT Martin Erdosay
(7) George Washington Carrier Strike Group "DY Booklet"
(8) "Guardian" News Clips
(9) Diskette

1. For reference (a), enclosures (1) through (9) are submitted as command history for calendar year 2004.

[Signature]
GARRY R. WHITE
USS GEORGE WASHINGTON (CVN 73)
COMMAND HISTORY 2004
(UIC 21412)

COMMAND AND COMPOSITION ORGANIZATION

USS GEORGE WASHINGTON (CVN 73), sixth of the NIMITZ class nuclear-powered aircraft carriers, was commissioned on July 4, 1992 at Naval Station Norfolk, Virginia. Homeported in Norfolk, Va., GEORGE WASHINGTON is an asset of Commander, Naval Air Force, U.S. Atlantic Fleet, commanded by Rear Admiral H. Denby Starling II who assumed command on July 28, 2004. At the beginning of this year, GEORGE WASHINGTON was moored at Pier 14S throughout the Preparation for Overseas Movement (POM) leave period that ended January 20, 2004.

Captain Martin J. Erdossy was in command of GW at the beginning of the year. Captain Garry R. White assumed command on September 30, 2004. The ship served as the flagship for Commander, Carrier Group EIGHT, commanded by Rear Admiral H. Denby Starling II until Rear Admiral William J. McCarthy relieved him on July 5, 2004.

Carrier Air Wing SEVEN, commanded by Captain Kenneth E. Floyd, then by Captain Robert A. Field as of July 5, 2004, was the ship's main armament. The air wing provides the capability to conduct sustained offensive air operations against land, surface and subsurface targets, and to defend the strike group in support of assigned missions.

There were 69 aircraft in Carrier Air Wing SEVEN, including: the F-14B Tomcat fighter flown by the "Red Rippers" of Fighter Squadron ELEVEN (VF 11) and the "Pukin' Dogs" of Fighter Squadron ONE FOUR THREE (VF 143); the F/A-18 Hornet strike fighter flown by the "Wildcats" of Strike Fighter Squadron ONE THREE ONE (VFA 131) and the "Knighthawks" of Strike Fighter Squadron ONE THREE SIX (VFA 136); the E-2C Hawkeye airborne early warning aircraft flown by the "Bluetails" of Carrier Airborne Early Warning Squadron ONE TWO ONE (VAW 121); the S-3B Viking sea control aircraft flown by the "Top Cats" of Sea Control Squadron THIRTY ONE (VS 31); the EA-B Prowler electronic attack aircraft flown by the "Patriots" of Electronic Attack Squadron ONE FOUR ZERO (VAQ 140); the HH-60/SH-60F Seahawk helicopter flown by the "Nightdippers" of Helicopter Antisubmarine Squadron FIVE (HS 5); and the C-2A Greyhound carrier onboard delivery (COD) aircraft flown by the "Rawhides" of Fleet Logistics Support Squadron FORTY (VRC 40).

Enclosure (1)
**USS GEORGE WASHINGTON (CVN 73) LEADERSHIP**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CAPT Martin J. Erdossy</td>
<td>Commanding Officer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CAPT Garry R. White</td>
<td>Commanding Officer</td>
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<tr>
<td>CAPT Dee Mewbourne</td>
<td>Executive Officer</td>
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<tr>
<td>CAPT Thomas Rowden</td>
<td>Reactor Officer</td>
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<tr>
<td>CDR John Carroll</td>
<td>Reactor Officer</td>
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<tr>
<td>CDR Bradford E. Ableson</td>
<td>Command Chaplain</td>
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<tr>
<td>CDR Robert Williams</td>
<td>Command Chaplain</td>
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<tr>
<td>CDR Paul Skogerboe</td>
<td>Chief Engineer</td>
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<tr>
<td>CAPT John McCabe</td>
<td>Air Boss</td>
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<tr>
<td>CDR John Sheehan</td>
<td>Air Boss</td>
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<tr>
<td>CDR Andrew Nelson, MC</td>
<td>Senior Medical Officer</td>
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<tr>
<td>CDR Mark Quagliotti, DC</td>
<td>Senior Dental Officer</td>
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<tr>
<td>CDR Rick L. Nielsen</td>
<td>AIMD Maintenance Officer</td>
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<tr>
<td>CDR Charlie Chan</td>
<td>AIMD Maintenance Officer</td>
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<tr>
<td>CDR David Kiehl</td>
<td>Navigator</td>
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<tr>
<td>CDR William Doan</td>
<td>Weapons Gun Boss</td>
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<tr>
<td>CDR Michael Smith</td>
<td>Weapons Gun Boss</td>
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<tr>
<td>CDR Arturo Lopez</td>
<td>Supply Officer</td>
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<td>CDR Kevin Ruce</td>
<td>Operations Officer</td>
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<tr>
<td>CDR Brett Schexnider</td>
<td>Safety Officer</td>
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<tr>
<td>CDR John Reese</td>
<td>Safety Officer</td>
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<tr>
<td>CDR Gretchen Herbert</td>
<td>Combat Systems Officer</td>
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<tr>
<td>CDR Eugene Costello</td>
<td>Combat Systems Officer</td>
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<tr>
<td>LCDR Dan Pollard</td>
<td>Deck 1st Lieutenant</td>
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<td>LCDR Stuart Satterwhite</td>
<td>Training Officer</td>
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<td>LCDR David Berger</td>
<td>Legal Officer</td>
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<tr>
<td>LCDR James Lucci</td>
<td>Legal Officer</td>
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<tr>
<td>LCDR Mike Brown</td>
<td>Administration Officer</td>
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<tr>
<td>LCDR Timothy Wadley</td>
<td>Administration Officer</td>
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2004 HIGHLIGHTS

USS GEORGE WASHINGTON was deployed away from homeport 231 days, and sailed more than 70,750 nautical miles, the equivalent to more than 2.5 times around the globe, in support of Operations IRAQI FREEDOM (OIF) and ENDURING FREEDOM (OEF), the Global War on Terrorism, Sustainment Training and Fleet and Training Command Carrier Qualifications. This brings the total miles navigated since 1992 to 503,500 nautical miles. Listed below are some noteworthy accomplishments for CY 2004:

Deck Department. USS GEORGE WASHINGTON was involved in 36 underway replenishments with various NATO, USNS and USS ships [more than 100 hours along side], as well as seven dedicated vertical replenishments. GW completed seven precision anchorages, nine pier-side moorings and eight restricted water/straits transits; including two passages each of the Suez Canal, Strait of Gibraltar, Bab el Mandab Strait and the Strait of Hormuz.

Navigation Department. Navigation received a 99.14 percent score for outstanding seamanship readiness, the highest Final Evaluation Period (FEP) score ever awarded to an Atlantic Fleet carrier. Additionally, the department scored an 89 percent on the FEP exercise during the Inter-Deployment Readiness Cycle (IDRC), and completed all competitive exercises (COMPEX) with an average score of 95.9 percent.

Reactor Department. Reactor completed the Operational Reactor Safeguard Examination (ORSE) and provided power to propel GW 70,750 nautical miles.

Air Department. During CY 2004, Air received a 98.7 percent Aircraft Launch and Recovery Equipment (ALRE) availability rate that enabled unprecedented sortie completion rate of 98 percent while executing 10,398 mishap-free launches and recoveries (7,753 in support of Operations IRAQI FREEDOM, ENDURING FREEDOM AND VIGILANT RESOLVE). They conducted 36,366 aircraft moves (29,754 deployed), 6,170 hangar bay moves (4,386 deployed), 1,242 elevator runs (1,105 deployed), responded to 229 mishap-free crash and salvage evolutions and delivered 16.4 million gallons of JP-5 fuel.

Safety Department. With a proactive approach and aggressive training, Safety orchestrated the command reduction in safety mishaps by 45 percent compared to the 2002 deployment. Safety performance resulted in zero class Alpha, three class Bravo and seven class Charlie mishaps and zero reportable liberty incidences on deployment.
Weapons Department. Weapons accumulated 903 pieces of ordnance, completed SUW-17 COMPEXes with a 100 percent score and satisfactorily completed the Aviation Ordnance and Conventional Ordnance Readiness Review and the COMNAVAIRLANT 3M Assessment.

Operations Department. The Combat Directional Center completed a NATO Sea Sparrow live-fire event, which engaged two stream raid sub-sonic aerial targets, and conducted a live-fire Close-in-Weapons-System (CIWS) engagement of a Towed Decoy Unit by all four mounts, as well as 13 CIWS PACFIREs.

The Carrier Tactical Support Center (CV-TSC) supported Destroyer Squadron TWENTY EIGHT (DESRON 28) with 14,668 man-hours in execution and documentation of more than 5,000 contact reports, 3,320 ship queries and 200 Maritime Intercept Operations (MIO) boardings.

The Air Transportation Office (ATO) handled more than 5,600 passengers, (2,668 inbound and 3,052 outbound) and nearly 500,000 pounds of mail, (326,670 inbound and 182,147 outbound).

The Carrier Air Traffic Control Center (CATTC) controlled more than 10,500 safe aircraft carrier landings (6,185 day and 4,407 night), qualified 288 pilots and conducted 10,189 sorties (5,049 day and 5,140 night).

During the deployment, the Intelligence Division processed 1,760 aim points (1,298 in support of OIF), produced more than 7,000 time sensitive targeting (TST) smart packs, debriefed 6,900 sorties (1,900 for OIF), conducted battle hit assessments (BHA) for more than 300 sorties and 50 combat deliveries, exploited more than 210 images from 17 OIF TARPS missions and conducted more than 900 cyclic operations briefs and 350 OIF mission briefs. In support of OEF/Operation SEA DRAGON, the Intelligence Division processed 2,100 Surface Surveillance Coordinator (SSC) contacts and produced 70 boarding packages and 175 query reports. Other support included 50 merchant locators, 15 intelligence information reports, 4,000 exploited national and tactical images supporting indications and warning (I&W) requirements, and 17,000 Cryptological Time Sensitive and Technical Reports, as well as thousands of tactical reports (TACREPS).

The Photo Lab processed 8,000 feet of TARPS film in support of OIF and 5,000 SSC images, produced 32,000 hard-copy prints, completed 3,300 photography jobs, and submitted 877 photos to
CHINFO for worldwide publication, including the cover of "Proceedings" and numerous photos in "All Hands" magazine and the Navy's news website.

The Public Affairs Office hosted more than 1,800 distinguished visitors to include heads of state, and senior government, military and business leaders while pier-side in Norfolk and 594 embarked distinguished visitors underway, as well as 50 media representatives. During deployment, the office produced an award-winning daily internal SITE-TV show "GW NOW!" and a daily newspaper, the "Guardian." They also produced more than 250 internal news stories, 80 of which were published in various news publications. The broadcast team produced various internal training products, which addressed topics including safety, medical issues, educational opportunities and command policies. They also developed a proactive internal media training production for "School of Ship," the command indoctrination course, to train the crew in media interaction.

Engineering Department. The ship's damage control training program sustained the ship's readiness at a monthly average rating of 100 percent. The department scored a 95.44 percent during COMPEX.

Combat Systems Department. Combat Systems maintained 98 percent reliability of NIPRNET/SIPRNET. The first carrier to become a network-operating center for all incoming and outgoing email thru one exchange server, processing more than 12 million E-mails during deployment.

The ship's communication division served as the Carrier Strike Group (CSG) Communications and Control Ship (CCS), and ensured the flow of internal/external tactical communications systems (average 12,276 messages daily). During 2004, there were 1,625,957 messages received and 7,022 messages transmitted.

Micro-Miniature/Module Test Repair Facility (2M/MTRF) technicians repaired 384 circuit card assemblies and electrical and electronic modules (CCA/EM), saving $1.1 million. They also performed 3,475 information system hardware and software trouble reports, saving more than $300,000.

Aircraft Intermediate Maintenance Department. AIMD repaired nearly 11,500 items, and provided support to Carrier Air Wing SEVEN (CVW 7) and all other carrier strike group customers throughout the deployment and the subsequent surge period. Contributed to CVW-7's 97.3 percent overall completion rate and resulted in Team GW/CVW-7 amassing nearly 8,800 sorties and more
than 21,000 flight hours. AIMD supported Group Sail 2004 by repairing 677 items in support of CVW-7's 599 sorties and 1,025 flight hours.

**Supply Department.** Supply maintained an operational budget in excess of $97 million and an inventory of more than $315 million, which included 82,000 parts. They loaded more than 420,000 pounds or stores and supplies on more than 4,000 pallets. The ship's store sold more than $4 million in merchandise and a NEXCOM record of more than $1 million in foreign merchandise in direct support of MWR. Numerous food service lines provided 24-hour operational service, totaling more than $6.5 million of food served.

**Medical Department.** Medical met all requirements for the "Blue M" and was awarded the Naval Environmental Health Center's Gold Star for Health Promotions. They coordinated 66 MEDEVACS, responded to 84 medical emergencies and cared for 129 patients. Outpatient visits numbered 23,973 and surgical procedures totaled 984, including six appendectomies.

**Dental Department.** Dental averaged 1,000 patients per month, providing more than 21,000 major procedures, representing $1.5 million in dental services to the entire GW Carrier Strike Group. During the 2004 deployment, Dental performed more than 16,500 major procedures during 8,500 patient visits.

**Legal Department.** Legal provided 1,058 powers of attorney, 150 legal assistance appointments with a Judge Advocate, the preparation of 77 civil court continuances, and the preparations of more than 1,300 tax returns, resulting in more than $1.5 million in refunds to the crew.

**Command Religious Ministries Department.** CRMD conducted more than 50 religious ministry programs each week while underway. They also provided a wide range of opportunities to GEORGE WASHINGTON crew and family including deck plate visitation, pre-marital counseling, marriage counseling, grief counseling and crisis intervention. CRMD highlights include: community relations project for San Vincenzio Abbey, Italy; six burials-at-sea, heritage observances, a pre-deployment seminar and return and reunion training at the end of the deployment. CRMD recorded more than 1,025 Family Literacy Foundation's United Through Reading (UTR) tapes for the 2004 deployment. CRMD initiated the "My Big Adventure" program, which assisted families in staying together by customizing a children's book describing the adventures their loved ones' experienced on deployment. Additionally, they reduced preventable American Red
Cross cases by 25 percent compared to the previous deployment through aggressive support programs and information dissemination.
Sailors on board USS GEORGE WASHINGTON (CVN 73) enjoyed the beginning of 2004 while they were on holiday leave. The ship was surge-ready New Year’s Day as they counted the days to deployment.

On January 8, Sailors returned to work from POM/Holiday stand down to make final preparations for the upcoming deployment. During the next two weeks, pallets of food and supplies were brought on board as part of the ship-wide preparations.

During the early morning hours on January 20, Sailors said goodbye to their families and boarded the ship getting underway for Carrier Qualifications before heading East to the Mediterranean Sea and Arabian Gulf for a scheduled six-month deployment.

The first week of the deployment challenged the GW crew and embarked Carrier Air Wing SEVEN with few challenges, but when situations came up, everyone responded as trained.

On January 27, an HH-60H Seahawk from HS-5 responded to an emergency situation on board the Italian merchant vessel Isolo Verde. The Captain of the ship radioed GW and requested medical assistance for Giovanni Cutugno, a merchant mariner who had fallen down a ladder in rough seas. AW3(NAC) Scott Steinbacher was lowered from the helicopter, hovering above the deck of the Isolo Verde, to the sailor. Steinbacher used hand signals to communicate with the crew, and prepared Cutugno for transport to GW. Once on board GW, Medical treated Cutugno for cuts and an injury to his right leg.

Turnover with USS ENTERPRISE (CVN 65) took place from January 29 until January 31 while the ship was transiting the Atlantic Ocean.

On February 1, as Sailors prepared to watch the Super Bowl, GW transited the Strait of Gibraltar, entering 6th Fleet Area of Operations. By February 6, GW and CVW-7 Sailors were enjoying their first port visit of the deployment, a four-day port stop in Souda Bay, Crete.

On February 12, GW and USS VELLA GULF (CG 72) Sailors changed pace for a couple of days and gave Sailors a broader knowledge of the different ships and their missions, as they made a personnel transfer to both ships using a rigid hull inflatable boat. This cross deck was the first of many made during the deployment.

On February 16, Sailors aboard GW made the 16-hour transit through the Suez Canal, entering 5th Fleet Area of Operations.

On February 20, GW transited another strait at the Bab-Al-Mander Strait, leaving the Red Sea and heading into the Arabian Sea. Eight days later, the ship transited through the Strait of
Hormuz, and entered into the Arabian Gulf, assuming the watch for Operation Enduring Freedom.

On March 3, Sailors were treated to a visit from two professional golfers. Tiger Woods and Mark O’Meara were playing in the Dubai Classic and arranged to visit the ship for about an hour. The crew responded with a warm welcome and appreciation.

On March 4, second class petty officers around the ship hunkered down as they took the First Class Petty Officer Exam, hoping they would be among the fortunate ones around the fleet to advance.

Aircraft from CVW-7 had a history-making missile shoot March 7, firing 17 live AIM-54 Phoenix Missiles onto a range in two separate waves. Four F-14s along with four F/A-18s launched off the ship during one of the Tomcat’s final missile exercises.

On March 11, Third Class Petty Officers around the ship took the Second Class Petty Officer Exam.

On March 14, Sailors started their first port visit to Jebel Ali, Dubai, UAE, a five-day visit that was not be the last time they would be here during the deployment. The ship departed Jebel Ali on March 19.

On March 18, E-3s took the Third Class Petty Officer Exam hoping to be among those who advanced.

On March 26, the Wildcats from VFA-131 held their change of command ceremony in the foc’se. Commander David Fox passed the torch to Executive Office Commander Gregg Sears. Commander Fox assumed duties on board GW as Mini Boss.

On April 4, the Command Religious Ministries Department held a celebration for Women’s History Month in the Foc’sle. The ceremony featured Sailors re-enacting several famous women throughout history, including Rosa Parks.

On April 9, Sailors learned their next port visit to Jebel Ali, UAE, would be cancelled because the strike group was ordered to remain on station in the North Arabian Gulf after fighting in Fallujah, Iraq, intensified between Coalition Forces and insurgents. That night, Rear Admiral Denby Starling addressed the crew on SITE-TV and GW Now! about the importance of GW Strike Group’s role in the Arabian Gulf. Operation Vigilant Resolve was the result of the intense fighting that resulted in the deaths of four American civilian contractors and aimed to expel insurgents from the city.

On April 10, GW held the Master Chief Petty Officer flocking in the Chief’s Mess for the eight newly minted master chiefs on board.

On April 17, Chief of Naval Operations, Adm. Vern Clark and MCPON(SS/AW) Terry Scott, Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy, paid a visit to GW and CVW-7 Sailors to thank them for their hard work and reassured them that they would be home on time and would not have to spend more time than was necessary away from their families in the United States.
April 20 marked the halfway point in the deployment. GW Department Heads served Food Service Attendants in the Wardroom in appreciation for their hard work during the first half of the deployment.

On April 23, VAW-121 Bluetails’ Commander Timothy Block passed the torch to Commander Jeffrey Bay.

On April 25, GW and CVW-7 rushed back to the North Arabian Gulf after terrorists attacked the Khawr-Al-Amaya Oil Terminal just off the coast of Basra, Iraq. What started as a routine Maritime Intervention Operation, where Sailors from USS FIREBOLT (PC 10) attempted to board a suspicious dhow. The operation turned into a search, rescue and recovery operation for the GW. Two Sailors from the Firebolt were killed. During that time, Sailors on board GW and embarked with CVW-7 prepared ordnance and the aircraft to launch as Medical and Dental Departments began preparing the Mess Decks in case the ship would receive casualties from the attack.

On May 7, Sailors were able to take their minds off their busy workdays to relax during their second port visit to Jebel Ali, UAE. During that time, VFA-136 celebrated their change of command on the flight deck.

The Secretary of the Navy, the Honorable Gordon England, thanked the GW Strike Group Sailors for their hard work and dedication to the mission at hand during his visit May 20.

June 2 began GW’s involvement in Summer Pulse ’04, a CNO-directed exercise to surge seven carriers in four different operating theaters around the globe. The ship’s participation continued until the day GW pulled into homeport July 26.

On June 3, GW Sailors gathered in Hangar Bay Two for a day of rememberance and pay their respects to those who gave their lives in the line of duty during a Memorial Day ceremony. The ceremony also focused on those who made the ultimate sacrifice during the Battle of Midway, the turning point of the Pacific War. As “Amazing Grace” was played on the bagpipes, Rear Admiral Denby Starling, Commander Carrier Group EIGHT, Captain Martin J. Erdossy, commanding officer, Capt. Kenneth Floyd, commander, Carrier Air Wing SEVEN, and Capt. Tom Copeman, Commodore Destroyer Squadron TWENTY-EIGHT, paid their respects to the fallen service members during the wreath-laying, as Weapons Department’s G-2 Division’s honor guard rendered a 21-gun salute.

On June 10, Chief of Naval Personnel Vice Admiral Gerry Hoewing, visited with Sailors and addressed their concerns about quality of life, manning and the various changes the Navy is making to shape its work force. The visit came the day before GW’s third and final trip to Jebel Ali.

On June 11, the ship pulled into the United Arab Emirates for a four-day visit. Sailors had time to relax and enjoy being off the ship and away from work.
As GW’s time in the Arabian Gulf began to run out, Vice Admiral Nichols paid one final visit to the ship June 29 and thanked the crew for their dedicated service and contribution to the Global War on Terrorism.

Sailors had time to celebrate Independence Day and the ship’s birthday with a cake-cutting ceremony in Hangar Bay Two. July 4 was also marked the final day GW was in the Arabian Gulf.

On July 5, GW set her sights on the Arabian Sea, as she transited from the Arabian Gulf through the Strait of Hormuz. At the same time, turnover with USS JOHN F. KENNEDY (CV 67) was taking place. During a two-day video teleconference turnover with JFK, CSG-8, GW, CVW7 and CDS28 passed on lessons learned from their near five months on station in FIFTH FLEET.

By July 8, GW turned her attention homeward, as she transited through the Bab-Al-Mandeb Strait and into the Red Sea. Three days later, the ship left the 5th Fleet Area of Operation and into 6th Fleet during the transit through the Suez Canal.

On July 14, the crew received a much-deserved break during a four-day visit to Naples, Italy. The crew spent time in areas around Italy, including Rome and Pompeii, or they spent time exploring the town and tasting the local cuisine.

On July 20, as the ship made the final trip through the Strait of Gibraltar, Sailors could breathe a sigh of relief knowing they would be home soon.

On July 26, Sailors could hardly contain their excitement as the ship pulled into homeport. The crew departed the ship and greeted loved ones eagerly awaiting the chance to greet their Sailors with hugs and kisses. The rainy weather did not dampen the joyous reunions upon returning to Norfolk. After departing the ship, Sailors began enjoying two weeks of leave at home with friends and family as the Post Overseas Movement stand down began.

As the Post Overseas Movement stand down came to an end August 23, Sailors in Weapons Department began making preparations to start offloading ammunition. Three days later, the ammo offload began. The hangar bays were full of ammunition coming from the magazines waiting to be taken off the ship.

With one part of the offload complete, GW began making preparations to get underway again. On September 7, the ship participated in a fast cruise evolution, which also involved security drills and a general quarters drill. Each drill conducted in those three hours helped senior leadership evaluate the crew’s ability to prepare for an emergency.

On September 13, GW got underway for the first time since July to conduct Training Carrier Qualifications to train new pilots. The underway lasted until September 22.

On September 18, Sailors gathered to remember service members who are still listed as missing or were prisoners of war during the POW-MIA service held in Hangar Bay Two. Two days
later, CRMD honored the wishes of five former service members during a burial at sea ceremony.

On September 23, Weapons Department continued offloading ammunition.

On September 30, Sailors gathered in Hangar Bay Two as Captain Martin J. Erdossy passed the torch to his successor, Captain Garry R. White, during a change of command ceremony. White was formerly assigned as executive officer during the 2000 deployment.

On October 15, GW got underway for Group Sail '04 with the entire Carrier Strike Group for sustainment training to ensure our surge ready capability in support of the CNO's Fleet Response Plan. This eight day at sea period included Air Wing Carrier Qualifications and large force exercises.

The ship got underway again November 2. During this underway, GW hosted new pilots for Training Carrier Qualifications as well as Carrier Qualifications. Weapons Department continued offloading ammunition, and Reactor Department geared up for the ORSE inspection.

On November 30, GW got underway for the final time before ending its surge status. During the four-day underway, the ship completed Carrier Qualifications. Upon returning to port, the ship made preparations to head to the shipyards.

On December 15, JP-5 was offloaded from the ship while the berthing barge, APL-66, arrived at Norfolk Naval Station in preparation for the move to Northrop Grumman Newport News shipyard. The next day, the crew began the holiday stand down. Over the holidays, the crew continued preparations for the Docked Planned Incremental Availability phase, which was set to begin in January 2005.
2004 CHRONOLOGY

JANUARY 2004

05-08 Aviation Ordnance Safety Review
   CNAL QA Assist visit

08   Holiday leave stand down ends
      Pre-deployment Brief

08-09 Conventional Ordnance Safety Review
      GCCS-M Install

10   Foreign-exchange students visit

12   CAT team arrives

17   Bible World Church Group visit
      HS-5 fly-on

17-19 CVW-7 onload

20   Begin scheduled six-month Mediterranean Sea/Arabian Gulf
      Deployment

20-22 CVW-7 CQs

21   White House General Counsel flys out in F/A 18D
      PACFIRE
      MISSILEX

22   CIWS Mount 21 upload

23   Rendezvous with USNS LARAMIE (TA-0 203) (UNREP)

25   NSSM upload

27   Italian sailor, Giovanni Cutugno, MEDEVAC to GW

29-31 VTC turnover with USS ENTERPRISE

31   PACFIRE

FEBRUARY 2004

01   Strait of Gibraltar transit
      Super Bowl Party
FEBRUARY 2004 Cont.

02  Cutugno MEDEVAC off GW
   ENCOUNTREX
03  Fueling at Sea with USS VELLA GULF
04  U.S. Ambassador to Malta visit
06-10 Souda Bay, Crete, Greece port visit
07  Community Relations project in Souda Bay
09  Guests of Commanding Officer Souda Bay Naval Support
    Activity visit Souda Bay Naval Support Activity base
    employees and Sailors
10  Depart Souda Bay
11  Rendezvous with USNS SUPPLY (T-AOE 6)) for underway
    replenishment C6F, VADM Ulrich, embarks
12  PACFIRE
    Passenger transfer to/from USS VELLA GULF (CG 72)
13  DETAINEX
15  Rendezvous with USNS SUPPLY (T-AOE 6))
16  Suez Canal Transit/in-chop 5th Fleet AOR
17  U.S. Ambassador to Egypt and Mr. Gamal Mubarak visit
18  U.S. Ambassador to Saudi Arabia visit
19  CIWS Mount 22 swapout
20  Bab-Al-Mander transit
    CJTF HOA - BGEN Broadwater visit
21  Rendezvous with USNS SUPPLY (CG 72)
    RHIB transfer cross POL with USS VELLA GULF (CG 72)
22  Small boat transfer with USS VELLA GULF (CG 72)
25  EW RACKETEX
27  Rendezvous with USNS SUPPLY (T-AOE 6)
FEBRUARY 2004 Cont.

28 PACFIRE
   Straits of Hormuz Transit

29 C5F, VADM Nichols, embarks
   African American/ Black History Heritage Celebration

MARCH 2004

03 Tiger Woods/ Mark O'Meara visit

04 Navy-wide First Class Petty Officer exam
   Commodore Tidd, CTF 50/CTF 55, visits

06 Rendezvous with USNS JOHN ERICSSON (T-AO 194) and USNS
   SIRIUS (T-AFS 8) (RAS)

08 Passenger transfer with USS VELLA GULF (CG 72)

10 PACFIRE
   Passenger transfer with USS VELLA GULF (CG 72)

11 Navy-wide Second Class Petty Officer exam
   Media embark- Top Gun Magazine

12 Rendezvous with USNS JOHN ERICSSON (T-AO 194) (UNREP)
   Deputy Commander, Coalition Air Operations Commander
   (CAOC), Commodore Robinson visits

14-19 Port visit in Jebel- Ali, UAE

16 UAE media visit

17 Abu Dubai, UAE U.S. Embassy staff visit

18 Navy-wide Third Class Petty Officer exam

21 Kuwaiti DV embark

22 Rendezvous with USNS JOHN ERICSSON (T-AO 194) (RAS)
   U.S. Media embark

24 PACFIRE
   Combined Air Operations Center guests embark
MARCH 2004 Cont.

26 Rendezvous with USNS SIRIUS (T-AFS 8)
   VFA-131 change of command
   Charles de Gaulle helo pick up/drop off CCG-8/CAG

28 Director, CAOC, Air Commodore Butler, UKAF, embark
   Royal Bahrain Air Force Officers embark

31 Rendezvous with USNS SUPPLY (T-AOE 6) (RAS)
   CAOC guests

APRIL 2004

02 Commanding Officer, HMS GRAFTON (F80), CDR Cassar embark

04 Women’s History Month celebration

06 PACFIRE
   JAMEX
   CAOC DV embark

08 Rendezvous with USNS SUPPLY (T-AOE 6) (RAS)
   Qatar DV embark

09 Foreign Ambassadors to Bahrain embark

10 Master Chief Petty Officer frocking (eight)

15 Rendezvous with USNS SUPPLY (T-AOE 6) (RAS)

17 CNO/MCPON Visit

18 CAOC DV visit

20 PACFIRE

22 Rendezvous with USNS SUPPLY (T-AOE 6) (RAS)

23 VAW-121 change of command
   VADM Nichols, C5F, embark

25 Chief of Staff retirement Capt.
   CAOC DV embark

26 Naval Historic Center embark

28 Media embark
APRIL 2004 Cont.

29 Rendezvous with USNS SUPPLY (T-AOE 6) (RAS)

MAY 2004

01 Mid-Deployment Career Fair
   MWR skeet shoot on fantail

02 PACFIRE

05 Rendezvous with USNS SUPPLY (T-AOE 6)

06 CIWS Download
   VLG RHIB transfer

07-11 Port Call in Jebel-Ali, UAE
   VFA-136 Change of Command

09 Boy Scout Court of Honor Ceremony - Inport Jebel Ali, UAE

10 Foreign Attache' Officers visit - Inport Jebel Ali, UAE

14 Senior Chief Petty Officer frocking ceremony

15 NAVELSF (U.S.) media embark
   First Class/Second Class Petty Officer frocking ceremony
   Asian Pacific Islander Celebration

16 Major General Elder - DCFACC embark

18 Rendezvous with USNS TIPPECANOE (T-AO 199)

19 USS BULKELEY (DDG 84) RHIB transfer

20 SECNAV visit

24 DAPPA Images - media embark
   VLG RHIB transfer

25 CODEL embark

26 Third Class Petty Officer frocking ceremony
   MWR skeet shoot on fantail

27 Rendezvous with USNS TIPPECANOE (T-AO 199) (RAS)
   Rendezvous with USNS SPICA (T-AFS 9) (VERTREP)
JUNE 2004

01 BGEN Snyder command embark

02 PACFIRE
  VLG RHIB transfer

02-26 July Summer Pulse

03 Memorial Day/Battle of Midway celebration

04 Rendezvous with USNS SUPPLY (T-AOE 6) (RAS)
  VLG RHIB transfer

05 C5F LNOs F2C2 embark
  NATO 2 Missile Upload
  VLG RHIB transfer

07 VLG RHIB transfer

09 Rendezvous with USNS SUPPLY (T-AOE 6) (RAS)

10 CNP embark

11 Port Call in Jebel Ali, UAE

13 RAAF P-3 DET Jebel Ali, UAE

15 Depart Jebel Ali, UAE

16 VLG RHIB transfer

17 Dutch freelance aviation photographers visit

18 VLG RHIB transfer

19 Bahrain Shura Council embark
  Rendezvous with USS VELLA GULF (CG 72) (FAS)
  All hands Flight Deck photo for Capt. Erdossy

20 CART 1 brief

22 Saudi Arabia Naval Forces East embark
  VLG RHIB Transfer

23 Rendezvous with USNS SUPPLY (T-AOE 6) (RAS)

24 VLG RHIB transfer
JUNE 2004 Cont.

26 Bahrain Business Leaders visit
27 Discovery Channel visit
28 VLG RHIB transfer
29 VADM Nichols, C5F, Visit
30 Rendezvous with USNS SUPPLY (T-AOE 6) (RAS)

JULY 2004

01 PACFIRE
02 Navy Marine Corps News embark
04 Cake-cutting ceremony for July 4th celebration and USS GW birthday
05 CVW-7 change of command
   VF-143 change of command
   Strait of Hormuz transit
05-06 VTC with USS JOHN F KENNEDY (CV 67)
08 Rendezvous with USNS SUPPLY (T-AOE 6)) (RAS)
   Bab-Al-Mander transit
11 U.S. Embassy Egypt embark
   Suez Canal transit
12 Rendezvous with USNS KANAWHA (T-AO 196) (VERTREP)
14-18 Port call Naples, Italy
16 Italian Caribineiri visit
17 Members of Naples Paliment visit
   DESRON 28 change of command
20 Strait of Gibraltar transit
25 CVW-7 flyoff
26 End of deployment, return to Norfolk
   Begin Post Overseas Movement stand down
AUGUST 2004

11  Sea Cadet tour
12  Armed Forces Staff College visit
14  Congressman Tiberi guests visit
18  COS SACT visit
23  End Post Overseas Movement stand down
    Israeli Ambassador to U.S. visit
24  Joint Forces Staff College visit
    German Staff College visit
26  Dollar Tree Management visit
    Ammo offload
28  Norfolk Media Orientation visit

SEPTEMBER 2004

01  Air Force Staff College
    NRD Richmond DEP visit
07  Fast cruise
09  Second Class Petty Officer Exam
    TDU pre-brief
10  9/11 prayer and remembrance ceremony
    CVN-21 visit
11  HS-5 fly onload
    HS-5 load onload
13-22 Underway for Training Carrier Qualifications
14  Third Class Petty Officer Exam
15  CPO pinning ceremony
18  POW-MIA service
20  Burial at Sea
SEPTEMBER 2004 Cont.

21 PACFIRE
TDU shoot

23 Ammo offload

24 Bank of America Executives visit
Joint Forces Staff College visit
Supreme Allied Command Transformation visit

25 Vice Admiral Richard Allen (Ret) visit

26 Defense Information School students visit

27 C2F visit

30 GEORGE WASHINGTON change of command - Capt. White relieved
Capt. Erdossy

OCTOBER 2004

01 USAF Air Combat Command visit
National Association of Naval Photography visit

03 FGS-208, Niedersachen, German Navy visit

05 Guests of RADM Kemp visit

06 Golden Wings Reunion Group, American Airlines retired
flight engineers visit

07 VADM Raman Puri, Chief of Integrated Staff to Chairman
Chiefs of Staff Committee, India visit

08 Aaron Tippin visit
National Defense University visit

09 YMCA Senior Executives visit

13 CVW-7 onload
USS Elrod Wardroom visit

15-22 Underway for CSG FRP Group Sail

16-17 CFFC DV embark

17 CIWS upload
### OCTOBER 2004 Cont.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date(s)</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>17-18</td>
<td>CNAL DV embark (FBI counterterrorism task force, Habitat for Humanity)</td>
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<tr>
<td>18-19</td>
<td>CNAL DV embark (senior aviator's spouses)</td>
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<tr>
<td>19-20</td>
<td>SECNAV DV embark</td>
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<tr>
<td>20-21</td>
<td>CNAL DV embark</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>50 Cal/M-240 gun shoot</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>Regional Project for Europeans of Security Issues visit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>Chief of the General Staff, People's Republic of China visit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>SACT German Officers visit</td>
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### NOVEMBER 2004

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<tr>
<th>Date(s)</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>01-02</td>
<td>CFFC DV embark</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02-22</td>
<td>Underway for Training Carrier Qualifications, Fleet Replacement Squadron Carrier Qualifications, ammo offload and ORSE inspection</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>03</td>
<td>NATO missile download</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>03-04</td>
<td>CFFC DV embark</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>04</td>
<td>National Geographic &quot;Marine Machines&quot; Embark</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>04-05</td>
<td>CNAL DV embark</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>05</td>
<td>Betsy Phillips, Professional Staff Mbr, House Appropriations Comm - Defense</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>05-07</td>
<td>Discovery Channel Wings Media embark</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>05-06</td>
<td>CFFC DV embark</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>06-07</td>
<td>CFFC DV embark</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Veteran's Day ceremony</td>
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<tr>
<td>15-17</td>
<td>Rendezvous with USNS SUPPLY (T-AOE 6) (RAS and ammo offload)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
23 NETWARCOM visit  
Naval Studies Board C4ISR Committee visit

NOVEMBER 2004 Cont.

29 FRS/HS-75/VRC-40 onload

30-03 DEC Underway for Fleet Replacement Squadron Carrier Qualifications

30-01 DEC CO's guests embark

DECEMBER 2004

01-02 Commodore Peter Walpole, U.K. Royal Navy, Deputy, NATO Striking Fleet Atlantic embark  
CFFC DV embark

04 Prince William Soccer Club visit

07 Virginia Port Authority visit  
BALTOPS leadership visit

09 Ms. Jeannette James, Professional Staff Member, House Appropriations Committee - Total Force for Military Healthcare visit  
Naval Research Laboratories engineers visit

10 South Dakota, Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve visit

11 Boy Scouts of America, Troop 1865, Fairfax, VA visit

12 GW Holiday Party - Portsmouth, Virginia

13 Supreme Allied Command Transformational spouses group visit

14 Naval Safety Center Highway Safety brief  
Atlantic Council of the United States visit

15 RADM Oleg Kriljenko Arnillas, Commander, Submarine Force, Peru visit JP-5 offload APL-66 arrives

16 Tidewater Civic Leadership Institute visit  
Begin holiday stand down

17 Naval Safety Center visit