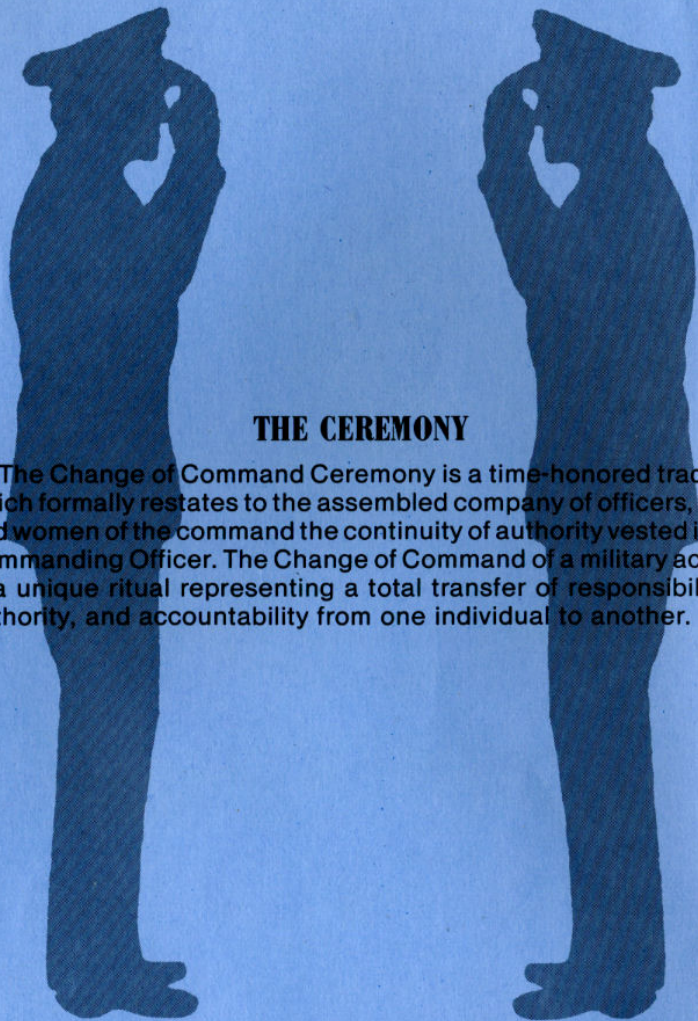


USS INDEPENDENCE



Change of Command

28 July 1986



THE CEREMONY

The Change of Command Ceremony is a time-honored tradition which formally restates to the assembled company of officers, men, and women of the command the continuity of authority vested in the Commanding Officer. The Change of Command of a military activity is a unique ritual representing a total transfer of responsibilities, authority, and accountability from one individual to another.

PROGRAM

COMMANDER NAVAL AIR FORCE

U. S. ATLANTIC FLEET ARRIVES

PARADE THE COLORS

NATIONAL ANTHEM

INVOCATION

Lieutenant Commander Ralph A. Ladmiraull, CHC

GUEST SPEAKER

Vice Admiral Robert F. Dunn

Commander Naval Air Force

U. S. Atlantic Fleet

REMARKS AND READING OF ORDERS

Captain Kenneth L. Carlsen

Commanding Officer, USS INDEPENDENCE

READING OF ORDERS AND REMARKS

Captain William R. Needham

FROCKING

Captain Kenneth L. Carlsen to Rear Admiral

BENEDICTION

Lieutenant Commander Ralph A. Ladmiraull, CHC

RETIRE THE COLORS

Vice Admiral Robert F. Dunn



Vice Admiral Robert F. Dunn graduated from the U. S. Naval Academy in 1951. He now commands the Naval Air Force, U. S. Atlantic Fleet.

Vice Admiral Dunn served at sea as Commanding Officer of the aircraft carrier USS SARATOGA (CV 60) and the command ship USS MOUNT WHITNEY (LCC 20). He served in the destroyer USS NICOLAS (DDE 449) during the Korean War. After completing flight training, Vice Admiral Dunn flew A-1 Skyraiders and A-4 Skyhawks from attack carriers operating in both the Atlantic and Pacific. In 1967, he commanded Attack Squadron 146, flying numerous combat

missions in Southeast Asia. Later, he commanded an Attack Carrier Air Wing in the Mediterranean and Carrier Group Eight in the Atlantic.

Shore tours included the Naval Postgraduate School where he earned a Master of Science Degree and the United Kingdom Joint Services Staff College in England. He was a flight instructor in Pensacola, Florida and a Polaris Missile Special Projects Office Representative in Sacramento, California. Vice Admiral Dunn served in the Bureau of Naval Personnel as Head of the Officer Distribution Plans and Programs Branch. He also served as Commander Naval Safety Center, Commander, Naval Military Personnel Command and as the Chief of Naval Reserve.

Vice Admiral Dunn has earned a number of military awards, including two Silver Star Medals, four Legions of Merit and two Distinguished Flying Crosses for action in Southeast Asia.

He is a native of Chicago, Illinois, and is married to the former Annette Brown of Pensacola, Florida. Vice Admiral Dunn assumed command of the Naval Air Force U. S. Atlantic Fleet on 8 December 1983.

HISTORY OF THE USS INDEPENDENCE

The first INDEPENDENCE was a ten-gun Continental Sloop purchased from France in 1777 and served in the Revolutionary War. The second INDEPENDENCE was a 74-gun ship-of-the-line. She became the flagship of Commodore Bainbridge's Mediterranean Squadron. A cargo steamer commissioned in the Naval Overseas Transportation Service in 1918 was the third ship to bear the name. The fourth INDEPENDENCE was converted to an aircraft carrier from a cruiser hull. Launched in 1942, she participated in the Pacific Campaign, winning eight battle stars. On January 19, 1959, the present USS INDEPENDENCE (CV 62) was commissioned, becoming the fifth naval vessel to bear the name.

INDEPENDENCE played a significant role during the Cuban Missile Crisis of 1962. In 1965, during the Vietnam conflict, she launched more than 8,000 strikes in support of the Republic of South Vietnam. In 1970 she was awarded the Meritorious Unit Commendation for service during the Jordanian Crisis.

In 1972, INDEPENDENCE underwent an overhaul during which she was converted from a CVA to a CV, capable of conducting both attack and anti-submarine warfare operations. She was one of the first carriers to employ this concept.

In June 1981, INDEPENDENCE returned from a seven month Indian Ocean deployment, the first East Coast, conventionally powered carrier to deploy to that area. Air Wing SIX logged over 20,000 flight hours and 10,000 sorties. For her role in the Iranian and Afghanistan contingency operations, INDEPENDENCE was awarded the Navy/Marine Corps Expeditionary Medal.

In December 1982, INDEPENDENCE returned from a six month Mediterranean deployment after spending 160 days at sea, principally in support of the U. S. Marines in Lebanon.

In April 1984, INDEPENDENCE returned from a highly successful six month deployment after participating in Operation URGENT FURY in support of contingency operations off Grenada; operations off the coast of Lebanon in support of Peace-Keeping forces, which included an air strike on 4 December 1983, and Operation TEAMWORK 84 north of the Arctic Circle. The ship was awarded the Navy Unit Commendation for these efforts.

In February 1985, INDEPENDENCE returned from a four month Mediterranean/Indian Ocean deployment. Following her inport period in Norfolk, VA., INDEPENDENCE departed for the Philadelphia Naval Shipyard and arrived in April 1985.

Captain Kenneth L. Carlsen



Captain Carlsen was born and raised in Iowa. He graduated from the United States Naval Academy in 1963 and upon completion of flight training, was designated a Naval Flight Officer in February 1964.

Captain Carlsen's first assignment was with VAP-62 at NAS Jacksonville, Florida. In August 1967 he was assigned to VAH-123 at NAS Whidbey Island, serving as low-level and radar navigation instructor. Reassigned to the Naval Postgraduate School in 1969, he received a Master of Science Degree in Computer Systems in December 1970.

In February 1971, Captain Carlsen returned to NAS Whidbey Island for EA-6B training in VAQ-129 and subsequently joined VAQ-132 in July 1971. While attached to VAQ-132, he served as Training Officer and Electronic Warfare Officer and made the first EA-6B deployment to the Western Pacific aboard USS AMERICA in June 1972. He returned to VAQ-129 in May 1973 and served as Administrative Officer, Training Officer and Maintenance Officer.

In June 1975, he was assigned to VAQ-136 where he served as Executive Officer and Commanding Officer embarked in USS KITTY HAWK and USS INDEPENDENCE. He was the Commanding Officer of VAQ-129, the EA-6B Fleet Replacement Squadron, from May 1978 to August 1979.

Captain Carlsen served as Executive Officer of USS MIDWAY (CV 41) from January 1980 to August 1981. This was followed by a tour as Program Coordinator for the EA-6B aircraft and U. S. Navy tactical air electronic warfare systems in the office of the Chief of Naval Operations. He commanded USS WHITE PLAINS (AFS-4) from April 1983 to August 1984. Captain Carlsen assumed command of USS INDEPENDENCE (CV 62) in October 1984. His next assignment will be Director for Warfare Systems Architecture, Space and Naval Warfare Systems Command.

Captain Carlsen's decorations include the Meritorious Service Medal, seven strike/flight Air Medals, two Navy Commendation Medals and various service and campaign medals.

He is married to the former Carole Adams of Norfolk, Virginia. They and their sons, John and Paul, will reside in Springfield, Virginia.

Captain William R. Needham



Captain Needham entered the U. S. Naval Academy in July 1957 and upon graduation reported immediately to flight training. He received his wings in October 1962. He reported to Attack Squadron FORTY-FOUR in Jacksonville, Florida for training in the A-4D Skyhawk. In October 1963, he reported to Attack Squadron ONE HUNDRED SIX, flying the A-4C.

In August 1966, Captain Needham reported to the Air Force Test Pilot School at Edwards AFB, California. Upon completion of this training, he served in the Carrier Suitability Branch of the Flight Test Division at NAS Patuxent River.

In August 1968, Captain Needham reported to Attack Squadron FORTY-TWO at NAS, Oceana, Virginia Beach, Virginia for training in the A-6 Intruder. In March 1969, he became a member of Attack Squadron EIGHTY-FIVE.

In June 1971, Captain Needham reported to the U. S. Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, California, achieving a Masters Degree in Financial Management. He reported to the Chief of Naval Personnel as head of the Enlisted Strength and Advancement Section.

In January 1975, Captain Needham reported for duty as the Operations Officer for Carrier Air Wing ONE embarked aboard USS JOHN F. KENNEDY (CV 69). Subsequently, he was assigned as Executive Officer and Commanding Officer of Attack Squadron SIXTY-FIVE from September 1976 to March 1979. Immediately thereafter, he was temporarily assigned to the staff of COMNAVAIRLANT in preparation for assuming command of Carrier Air Wing SEVEN in December 1979. After being relieved as Commander Carrier Air Wing SEVEN in March 1981 Captain Needham served on the staff of COMNAVAIRLANT as the Comptroller.

On 5 June 1984, he assumed command of USS SYLVANIA (AFS 2). During his command tour the USS SYLVANIA won the Battle "E" and the Chief of Naval Operations Safety Award. He was relieved on 28 March 1986 and reported to COMNAVAIRLANT for Prospective Commanding Officer training en route to USS INDEPENDENCE.

Captain Needham's decorations include the Legion of Merit, Meritorious Service Medal, the Air Medal, Navy Commendation Medal, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal (Korea) for service with Commander Attack Carrier Wing FOURTEEN on USS CONSTELLATION, Meritorious Unit Citation, the Battle Efficiency Award, Navy Expeditionary Medal, the Republic of Vietnam Armed Forces Meritorious Unit Citation (Gallantry Cross Medal Color with Palm), Sea Service/Deployment Ribbon, the Vietnam Service Medal and Campaign Stars, and the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal with Device.

Captain Needham is married to the former Karla Greer of Sante Fe, New Mexico. They reside in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

INDEPENDENCE COMMANDING OFFICERS

R. Y. McElroy	10 JAN 59 - 3 OCT 59
J. W. O'Grady	3 OCT 59 - 15 OCT 60
H. P. Lanham	15 OCT 60 - 22 SEP 61
E. P. Aurand	22 SEP 61 - 2 SEP 62
L. V. Swanson	2 SEP 62 - 23 AUG 63
J. D. Ramage	23 AUG 63 - 31 JUL 64
R. W. Windsor	31 JUL 64 - 11 AUG 65
J. E. Kennedy	11 AUG 65 - 25 AUG 66
J. P. Fox	25 AUG 66 - 8 JUL 67
C. A. Hill, Jr.	8 JUL 67 - 2 SEP 68
H. S. Mathews, Jr.	2 SEP 68 - 14 AUG 69
B. B. Forbes, Jr.	14 AUG 69 - 19 AUG 70
G. G. O'Rourke	19 AUG 70 - 9 OCT 71
W. M. N. Small	9 OCT 71 - 1 DEC 72
C. R. Smith, Jr.	1 DEC 72 - 25 JUN 74
W. B. Warwick	25 JUN 74 - 25 JUN 75
J. E. Service	25 JUN 75 - 29 MAR 77
G. M. Furlong, Jr.	29 MAR 77 - 9 SEP 78
T. C. Watson, Jr.	9 SEP 78 - 28 MAY 80
T. E. Shanahan	28 MAY 80 - 5 DEC 81
J. C. Breast	5 DEC 81 - 7 JUN 83
W. A. Dougherty, Jr.	7 JUN 83 - 29 OCT 84
K. L. Carlsen	29 OCT 84 - 28 JUL 86
W. R. Needham	28 JUL 86 -

SLEP
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The USS INDEPENDENCE is moving into the 21st century. Since April 1985, INDY has been at the Philadelphia Naval Shipyard undergoing a 34-month Service Life Extension Program (SLEP). SLEP is a three element program of Fleet Modernization, Major Life Enhancing Alterations, and Repair and Replacement, which will extend INDY's service life 15 years.

FLEET MODERNIZATION PROGRAM

- Extensive rework of the four main propulsion boilers.
- Overhaul of the ship's 150-foot smokestack.
- Installation of 10,000 miles of cable and more than 2,500 electrical motors.
- New steering gear and rudders.
- Modernized air conditioning and heating systems.

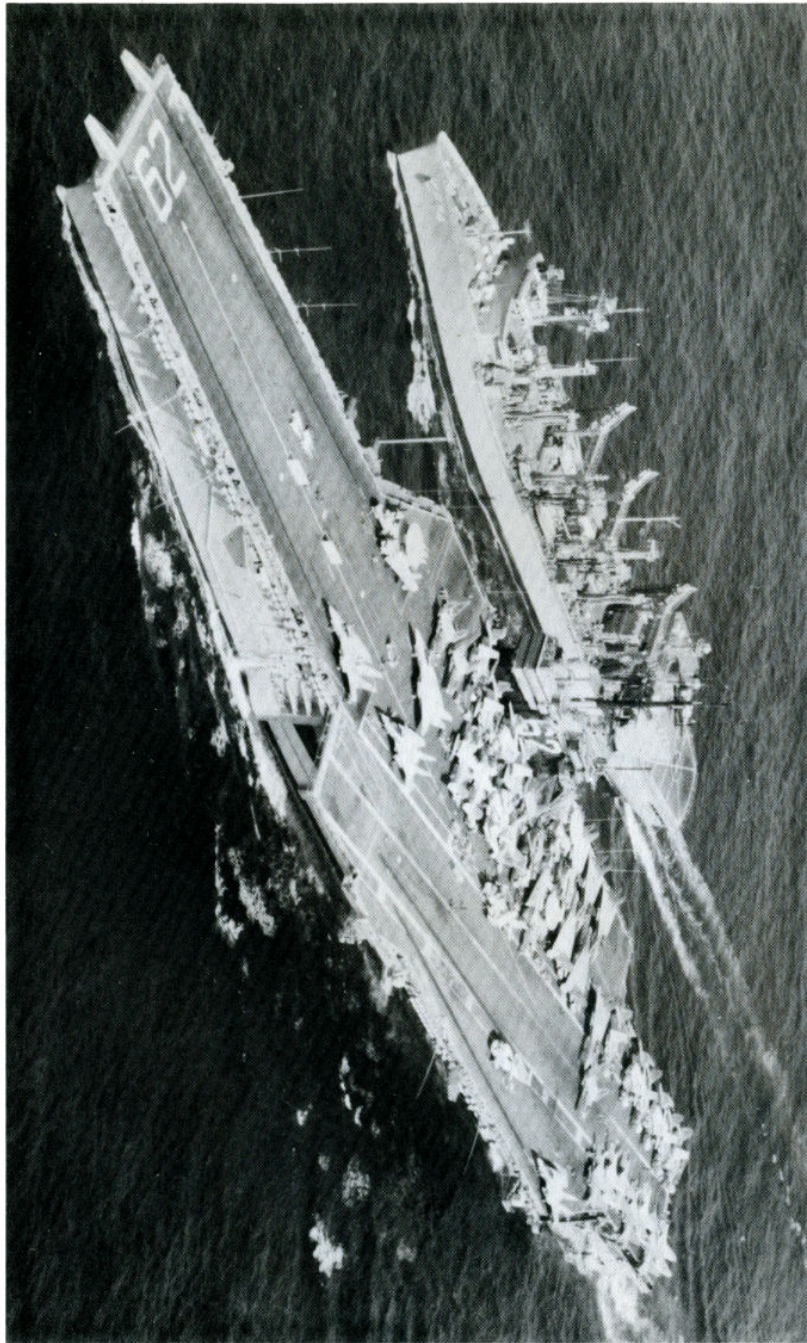
MAJOR LIFE ENHANCING ALTERATIONS

- Rework of all four aircraft elevators.
- More efficient jet fuel system.
- Increased catapult and arresting gear capacity.

REPAIR AND REPLACEMENT

- Cleaning of 150,000 linear feet of ventilation.
- Refurbished berthing spaces for more than 4,000 enlisted men.
- 227 refurbished officer state rooms.
- Every compartment stripped to bare metal, primed and repainted.

A cross between new construction and a comprehensive overhaul --SLEP will allow INDY to be a viable substitute for a new carrier into the 21st century.



THE CARRIER BATTLE GROUP

The United States is an island nation. Its economic well-being and survival depend on waterborne commerce for both the import and export of materials and goods. The aircraft carrier battle group is the principal tactical weapon system through which the Navy carries out its primary non-strategic mission of insuring the free use of critical sea lanes. Of equal importance is its collateral mission, which is vital to our strategic well-being – projection of power ashore. A credible capability to perform both missions is essential as a deterrent against Soviet action and as a stabilizing influence to our relationships with other countries.

The aircraft carrier serves as a key member of a powerful, mobile carrier battle group, employing anti-submarine aircraft, attack and fighter aircraft, surface escorts and nuclear submarines. These air, surface and submarine units together provide the greatest naval power that can be assembled to counter all threats at sea. The force has the mobility to operate where it can be used most effectively against any forces threatening our free use of the seas and it has the sensors and the weapons needed to defeat these threats. The maintenance of essential sea-lanes of communication with our allies and with our overseas military forces depends on the naval capabilities provided by this type of task force. The varied anti-submarine, attack and fighter aircraft capabilities provided by the aircraft carrier are essential for any naval operations in areas which are within the combat reach of hostile air and naval forces.