



The Initial Approach Fix

Capt. Ed “Clyde” Langford, Director Aviation Safety Programs

I have been on the job at the Safety Center for four months, and I have had the opportunity to review many of the well written mishap and hazard reports. My initial assessment is we continue to lose aircraft and people to relatively simple emergencies that are either misdiagnosed or a failure to execute proper procedures. Systems knowledge and knowing emergency procedures are the foundation for handling the blue threat.

This *Approach* issue focuses on the training command, who deal entirely in the blue-threat envelope. To put this into perspective, I did some research and found: Navy and Marine Corps aviation from January 1991 to May 18, 2007, we have lost 18 aircraft from the red threat and 523 aircraft to the blue threat. I am proud to be your Director, and look forward to working for you. Fly Safe! Clyde

Capt. Langford comes to the Safety Center from Operations Officer, USS *Dwight D. Eisenhower* (CVN 69).

The Aviation Training Command

This issue leads off with comments by RDML Don Quinn, CNATRA, and Cdr. John Minners, CNATRA safety officer, followed by “there I was” articles from students and instructors. You’ve all been there, and we trust each article will not only bring back a few memories, but reinforce the importance of laying a solid foundation for all naval aviation. Remember the basics.

The Naval Safety Center is proud to announce the winners of the CY 2006 CNO Aviation Safety Awards.

COMNAVAIRLANT

VFA-87 VFA-103 VAW-123
HS-3 HSL-48 HSC-2
VP-45 VS-22 VX-1

COMNAVAIRPAC

VFA-192 VFA-27 VAQ-139
VAQ-137 VAW-115 HS-14
HSL-45 HSC-21 VPU-2
VAQ-142 VQ-2 VQ-4

COMMARFORCOM

VMR-1 HMLA-167 VMA-223
VMFA(AW)-224 VMGR-252 HMM-261
VMFA-312 VMAQ-2 HMH-461
VMFA-251

COMMARFORPAC

HMM-268 HMM-262 VMGR-352
HMLA-369 VMFA-212 VMGR-152
VMA-311 HMLA-267 VMFA-323
HMM-161 HMH-466 HMM-166
MCAS YUMA

COMNAVAIRESFOR

VP-62 VR-1 VR-53
VR-58 VR-61 HSC-85
VFA-204 VFC-111

CG FOURTH MAW

HMLA-775 HMM-774
VMFA-142 VMGR-452
VMR Det. Andrews

NATRACOM

VT-2 VT-4 VT-7
VT-22 VT-28 VT-31

COMNAVAIRSYSCOM

HX-21
Fleet Readiness Center, Southeast

The Admiral Flatley Memorial Award is awarded to recognize the CV/CVN and LHA/LHD ships with embarked CVW or MAGTF, which surpass all competitors in overall contributions to safety. These teams are selected based on operational readiness and excellence, and an exceptional safety program and record.

Winners and runners-up for CY 2006 Admiral Flatley Memorial Award are:

Units

CV/CVN
CVW
LHA/LHD
MAGTF

Winner

USS *Kitty Hawk* (CV 63)
CVW-5
USS *Peleliu* (LHA 5)
11TH MEU

Runner-up

USS *Dwight D. Eisenhower* (CVN 69)
CVW-7
USS *Iwo Jima* (LHD 7)
24TH MEU

Update on Safety Award Nominations

The grading criteria for the CNO Aviation Safety Awards was modified to give added emphasis to the reporting of hazards (hazreps). The reports are a key ingredient to improving the way we do business. Check OPNAVINST 1650.28A for detailed criteria for submitting award nominations—give your command its best shot at being recognized.