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USS Abraham

Lincoln (CVN 72)

January 4, 2008

Lincoln celebrates another successful year

By MCSN KATHLEEN CORONA & MC2 JAMES R. EVANS
Penny Press Staff

USS Abraham Lincoln (CVN 72) spent nearly half of 2007 completing its Dry Dock Planned Incremental Availability (DPIA) and much of the other half of the year at sea, conducting various work ups to prepare for its pending overseas deployment.

Abe kicked off the year moored at Pier Bravo in Naval Base Kitsap Bremerton while conducting a major industrial overhaul on the Nimitz-class aircraft carrier.

By the time February rolled around, Abe's flight deck had been completely overhauled, the hangar bay received a major make-over and more than 170 Abe Sailors participated in a 5-kilometer "fun run" to promote diversity on the ship.

On Feb. 27, a new program was implemented to give Abe Sailors a new way of making purchases at sea or in port. Navy Cash, a fully automated money-management system, was kicked off with the first purchase by Capt. C.A. McCawley, then Lincoln's commanding officer.

March introduced a new-and-improved food franchise aboard Lincoln with a much larger selection of food, making Abe the first carrier to introduce this prototype menu.

Abe also started underway preparations in March. General Quarters, engineering, crash and salvage, man overboard, sighting team, security and other drills were conducted during the first of many fast cruises in the shipyard, when Abe's crew simulated being underway and remained on board overnight while operating at an at-sea schedule.



Photo By MC3 Justin Blake

USS Abraham Lincoln (CVN 72) arrives in its home port of Everett, Wash. June 30 after completing a nine-month Dry-dock Planned Incremental Availability (DPIA) at Puget Sound Naval Shipyard in Bremerton, Wash. Lincoln spent the first half of 2007 in Bremerton before returning to Everett and embarking on a series of workups that kept the crew busy at sea for much of the rest of the year.

On March 23, Rear Adm. Scott Van Buskirk relieved Rear Adm. John W. Goodwin as Commander, Carrier Strike Group (CCSG) 9 in a ceremony in Lincoln's hangar bay.

"This appointment is truly a dream come true, and it's very humbling," Van Buskirk said. "I look forward to working with the men and women of the strike group staff and each ship in the group."

Turn to 2007, Page 2

Sailors and Families urged to attend Pre-deployment fairs

By MCSN KATHLEEN CORONA
Penny Press Staff

USS Abraham Lincoln (CVN 72) Sailors and their families are invited to attend one of two pre-deployment fairs aimed at providing important information and identifying resources available while the ship is deployed.

The first fair will be held from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. on Thursday, Jan. 10 in the Grand Vista Ballroom inside the Commons on Naval Base Everett directly following the kickoff event for

the new Abraham Lincoln Family Association meeting at 6 p.m.

Child care will be available through prior arrangement at Naval Station Everett Child Development Center (CDC).

The second fair will be held from 6 to 8 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 19 at the Jackson Park Community Center in Bremerton, Wash.

Lincoln traditionally conducts deployment briefings for its Sailors and families prior to each extended deployment. Attendance is highly encouraged for those Lincoln Sailors making

their first shipboard deployment or spouses of Lincoln Sailors deploying for the first time after getting married.

Lincoln's Commanding Officer Capt. Patrick D. Hall will make opening remarks and will be followed by the Command Chaplain Cmdr. John Swanson, who will introduce presenters.

Speakers from various fleet support activities will provide presentations as well as staff information tables to answer any questions the Sailors and their families may have regarding deployment.

Inside



2007 In Photos

pg. 4-5



Movie Review: "Juno"

pg. 7



Our New Year's Resolutions

pg. 8

2007 In Review

2007

Continued from Page 1

The duties of strike group commander are to oversee operational training and readiness for the entire group and to maintain administrative functions and material war fighting readiness support for ships and squadrons.

Lincoln received 10 of 13 possible Command Excellence Awards in March, which recognize departments that were among the most battle ready and proficient in the fleet for 2006.

The departments commended were Air, Aircraft Intermediate Maintenance Department, Combat Systems, Damage Control, Deck, Medical, Navigation, Operations, Supply and Weapons.

On March 19, Lincoln's chefs battled for the taste of glory at the 57th annual Armed Forces Culinary Arts Competition.

Culinary Specialist 1st Class Daniel Sansano won first place in the decorated cake category, Culinary Specialist Seaman Daveda Burton received second place in the healthy choice category and Culinary Specialist 2nd Class Joshua Doroode competed in the hors d'oeuvres competition.

The weather in the Puget Sound area was warming up by April and Abe and its crew were working hard to wrap up DPIA to return to the high seas.

Abe's basketball team won the Navy's North Pacific Basketball Tournament in April, adding another trophy to the awards case.

June brought more sunny skies and a special visitor to the deck plates.

Dr. Gene Griessman, best selling author, former TV host and professional Lincoln impersonator visited Abe to meet the crew and perform his unique brand of motivational speaking.

Griessman delivered the Gettysburg Address on the ship's flight deck and gave an hour-long seminar to the entire crew about the lessons they can learn from the ship's namesake.

Command Master Chief Eric Schmidt relieved CMDCM Michael Anjola June 6, in another major change to Lincoln's

chain of command.

June 18 brought a huge change to Lincoln when Capt. Patrick D. Hall relieved Capt. C.A. McCawley to become the ninth commanding officer of USS Abraham Lincoln.

"To the officers, chiefs and crew of Lincoln, it is an honor and a privilege for me to be your new commanding officer," Hall said. "I look forward to working with you and taking this warship to sea to do what we do best and project power around the world.

At the change of command ceremony, Hall detailed the three actions he said are the most important to ensuring the ship's crew is ready to meet the challenges of any mission.

"Remember these three simple things," he said, "take care of your shipmates, always be prepared and take care of the ship."

After nine months in DPIA and eight weeks of overnight, simulated underway periods Lincoln concluded DPIA June 23 after several altera-

tions, upgrades, installments, thousands of man hours and millions of dollars.

The nine-month, \$260-million overhaul and improvements of Lincoln were a combined effort of Lincoln Sailors and contractors.

Over 369,000 man days were invested by Sailors. Teams of Personnel worked all over the ship from the habitability team, which modified 10 berthings and 800 racks to the deck team which tiled 311 decks. The door team completed 317 door jobs, the paint team painted 408 spaces, the vent team cleaned 102 vent ducts, and the re-habitability team fixed 79 berthing and head discrepancies.

Under bright skies on June 30, Abe was welcomed home to Naval Base Everett, Wash., for the first time in nine months.

In celebration of Independence Day, Lincoln opened its brows, hangar bays and flight deck to the public as part of Naval Station



Photo By MC2 James R. Evans

Capt. Patrick Hall speaks to the crew of the Nimitz-class aircraft carrier USS Abraham Lincoln (CVN 72) June 18 during the ship's commanding officer change of command ceremony as Capt. Andrew McCawley looks on. McCawley was relieved by Hall after two years as Lincoln's commanding officer.

Turn to 2007, Page 3

Today

January 4

1863- Blockading ship USS Quaker City captures sloop Mercury carrying dispatches emphasizing the desperate plight of the South.

1910 - Commissioning of USS Michigan (BB-27), the first U.S. dreadnought battleship.

1989-F-14 Tomcats assigned to VF-32 shoot down two hostile Libyan Mig fighter jets.

In Navy History

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2007 In Review

2007

Continued from Page 2

Everett's Family Freedom Festival.

Approximately 5,000 visitors were treated to an up-close look at the Everett-based aircraft carrier from 12 a.m. to 6 p.m. Lincoln Sailors rolled out the red carpet for the visitors who were invited to roam, ask questions and take a ride on one of the ship's four aircraft elevators to the flight deck from the hangar bays. The Sailors also hosted interactive displays to show off the facilities and technology aboard the ship.

Lincoln's stay in Everett in July was short and the ship was underway again on July 7 for tailored Ship's Training Availability (TSTA), the first of many carrier qualifications needed for Lincoln before overseas deployment.

August 20 brought Lincoln home to Everett from TSTA with an "outstanding" grade after completing all three phases of the availability during the 45-day underway period.

Abe also completed carrier qualifications for the ship's flight deck, including certification of the Precision Approach Landing System (PALS) and Carrier Air Traffic Control (CATC).

Lincoln hosted the ship's Materials Maintenance Management assessment assist team from Naval Air Forces Pacific, performed two fueling at sea evolutions and conducted a number of ship-wide training evolutions including man overboard drills and live-fire exercises.

Abe was back at sea Sept. 19 to begin Fleet Replacement Squadron Carrier Qualifications (FRSCQ) to qualify new pilots and re-qualify seasoned pilots to fly aircraft onto an aircraft carrier.

Off the coast of Southern California, 28 new chief petty officers were given their anchor collar insignia in a pinning ceremony held in the hangar bay Sept. 21.

Rounding up FRSCQ, Abe pulled into Victoria, British Columbia, the first foreign port call for many Lincoln Sailors on Oct. 3. After three days of liberty in the picturesque city of Victoria, the crew boarded the ship with friends and family who were treated to an up-close look at life on Lincoln during a four-hour cruise from Victoria to Everett, Oct. 6.

The cruise's highlight was an air show performed by a pair of F/A-18 Hornets and an SH-60 Seahawk from nearby Naval Air Station Whidbey Island.

Abe's crew enjoyed nine days at home in Everett before departing again Oct. 15 for a weapons on-load at Naval Magazine Indian Island. More than three million pounds of ordnance were brought

onto the ship.

Lincoln then transited to San Diego to bring aboard personnel and equipment from Carrier Air Wing 2 and kick off Composite Training Unit Exercise (COMPTUEX) on Oct. 25.

"It's the first time the entire strike group gets together to learn how to fight together," said Cmdr. Paul Mackley, Lincoln's operations officer.

While the ship moored, San Diego was engulfed in the smoke of numerous wild fires burning in and around the city. Thousands of Californians were forced to flee their homes, including hundreds of Sailors. Abe's Command Chaplain Cmdr. John Swanson joined chaplains from other Navy commands to provide comfort and

supplies to those evacuated to Naval Air Station North Island.

November 16 brought Lincoln home just in time for Thanksgiving. Having completed COMPTUEX, which certified the Abraham Lincoln's strike group as Major Combat Operations Surge capable, the ship had only one more scheduled work-up to complete before beginning an overseas deployment.

With Thanksgiving and Christmas fast approaching after its return to Everett, Lincoln's crew wasted no time getting into the holiday spirit.

The First Class Association set up collection bins around the ship for Sailors to donate items to be used in care packages shipped overseas to Lincoln shipmates serving in Individual Augmentee billets.

Religious Ministries Department, the Chief Petty Officer Association, the wardroom, and the Everett Navy League worked together to raise enough money to buy Thanksgiving Dinner for 100 Sailors and their families who otherwise may not have been able to afford a traditional Thanksgiving meal.

Abe Sailors also participated in the Marine Corps' Toys for Tots program, collecting toys for children in need.

Besides giving back to the community, the ship's crew got to have a little fun themselves during Lincoln's annual Christmas party hosted by MWR at the Naval Station Everett's The Commons Dec. 8. Besides enjoying food, drinks, and entertainment, Sailors in attendance got to hear Capt. Hall announce which of their shipmates had been selected for Sailor of the Year, the Lincoln Leadership Awards, and the Command Advancement Program (CAP).

As 2007 drew to an end, most of Lincoln's crew took advantage of scheduled leave periods to take some well-deserved time off with friends and family before beginning what promises to be another busy and eventful year.



Photo By MC2 James R. Evans

A Canadian flag flies from the stern of a contracted liberty boat as USS Abraham Lincoln (CVN 72) sits anchored off Victoria, British Columbia. In October, Lincoln Sailors enjoyed three days of liberty in Victoria followed by a friends and family day cruise back to Everett, Wash.

2007 In Photos



All photos by USS Abraham Lincoln's Media Dept.



2007 In Photos



Leadership

With New Year comes new goals for Sailors

By FORCM JEFF GARRISON
COMSUBFOR Force Master Chief

Welcome back from the holidays Shipmates. I trust that each one of you had a joyous and safe holiday standdown with family, friends and Shipmates. Just as each one of you are preparing for new goals and resolutions in your personal lives for 2008, our great Navy will be no different.

We enjoyed many successes, overcame obstacles, and faced new challenges on a daily basis in 2007. We should expect no different from 2008. We did it with highly trained and highly motivated Sailors on carrier flight decks, engine rooms and on the ground in some of the world's most dangerous places.

I am continually amazed and inspired by the quality of men and women serving in uniform today. Your dedication to our country and the selfless sacrifices you make each day are what makes us the greatest Navy in the world.

We had an outstanding year in 2007. Our retention efforts have paid off. The deckplate leadership applied, in our effort to retain talent, has clearly made a difference. We continue working toward a steady state-force of approximately 322,000 active duty and 67,000 selected reserve component Sailors by the end of FY09. We will be a much different looking type of Navy with higher demands and ever changing missions. We must now focus on retention of the right Sailors, at the right place and time. NAV-ADMIN 332/07 discusses our FY08 retention goals and how we will craft our Navy to achieve our future.

Our leadership teams must continue to engage at all levels. Semi-annual professional development boards are not the only way to reach our Sailors, nor should they be. Nothing takes the place of deckplate leadership. From the moment you receive orders on that new Sailor, even before he/she crosses your quarterdeck, the professional development board begins. LPOs and LCPOs should be mentoring their Sailors daily on the numerous opportunities the Navy can provide them. Medical, dental, thrift savings plan and education don't even scratch the surface of the many opportunities for our Sailors and their families.

Let's face it, most of us don't come to work everyday because we get outstanding pay, or we get three square meals a day, or that we have the opportunity to go to sea and fight the ship. What keeps us coming back is our job satisfaction. We must ensure that our men and women understand the purpose of what they do for our country everyday. From the signalman to the machinery room watch to the food service attendant, we all play a critical role in the mission of that unit. We owe it to our Sailors to promote and create a work environment that treats each Sailor with dignity and respect.

Another area we will closely monitor in 2008 will be our attrition. Each year our Navy loses talented personnel. Some of these

Sailors have the training, knowledge and capabilities that make them a valued member of our team. Command involvement is the key to prevent our young Sailors from making career ending actions or decisions. There is no greater impact on our Sailors than our Chief Petty Officers. As Chief Petty Officer's, we must never forget that our focus should always be centered around the personal and professional development of our Sailors we are entrusted to lead everyday.

A welcome aboard letter, Fleet and Family Support Center relocation information packet and a phone call from the sponsor sure go a long way in preparing that young Sailor for his first duty station. Recruit Training Center, Great Lakes does a remarkable job instilling pride, professionalism and a sense of purpose in our new Sailors. Initiatives like the report card system that submarine school in Groton, Ct. uses not only allows a gaining command to look at the academic accomplishments of their new Sailor, but also allows them to identify early any potential personnel concerns that might place them in a high risk category.

Alcohol related incidents remained constant in 2007 with an average of 126 DUI's each month Navy wide. I think we can do much better. These incidents not only place additional burdens on your fellow shipmates and command leadership, they

Turn to FORCM, Page 8



MILITARY SKI DAYS AT CRYSTAL MOUNTAIN

JANUARY 7
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FEBRUARY 12
Register by Friday, Feb. 9

MARCH 5
Register by Monday, March 3

APRIL 6
Register by Friday, April 4

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6:30 a.m. Depart Bangor Plaza Parking Lot
6:50 a.m. Depart Mullerix Park and Ride
8:30 a.m. Arrive at Crystal Mountain
3:30 p.m. Van opens for loading
4:00 p.m. Crystal Mountain runs close
4:30 p.m. Depart Crystal Mountain
7:00 p.m. Arrive at Bangor Plaza Parking Lot

Times are approximate and are subject to change. Liability waivers must be signed prior to trip departure. Waivers will be available at the van.

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Movie Review

Movie Review

By MCSN JOSEPH SCARBERRY
Penny Press Staff

Juno MacGuff is a cynical 16 year old girl attending her junior year of high school. She rocks out to Iggy Pop, plays guitar, and has a wit that stings. Her good friend Paulie Bleeker is close with her. Close enough to get her pregnant.

Ellen Page plays Juno. She's a brilliant young actress who has earned 11 film awards and over ten more nominations including a Golden Globe award. One of her more recent roles has been Kitty Pride from the X-Men film series.

Page takes the role of Juno to a whole new level that one wouldn't expect of a teenage dramedy. She's smart, she's funny, and she's comfortable with Juno. She eases herself into the role of a teenage parent to be flirting with adulthood, rolling with the punches and throwing them right back.

Director Jason Reitman uses the same styles and dry-yet-witty humor as he had in "Thank You for

Smoking." He also chooses to start the film in a half-cartoon format, similar to what they used in "Napoleon Dynamite." This gave me an uneasy feeling that the whole movie was going to end up as stupid as "Dynamite," but thankfully it picked up.

As the story goes, there is plenty of conflict. Juno, being a pregnant teenager still attending high school has to deal with social pressures, pregnancy worries, parental pressures on two levels, and concerns as to what to do with the child once it's born.

The movie had fairly touching overtones between the romance of Juno and Paulie, which lead to, of course, further conflict. Now, I like beef jerky dipped in hot sauce as much as the next guy, but watching two nerdy kids falling in love over a box of tic tacs just has some appeal on a level that is impossible to imitate easily.

Overall, I enjoyed the movie.

Good conflict, good comedy, and good acting all adds up in the end and makes "Juno" worth taking the time to see in the theaters.



MOVIE PRICES TOO STEEP FOR YOUR POCKETS?

MWR IS SELLING \$5 TICKETS TO ALL REGAL AND AMC THEATERS.

STOP BY THE MWR OFFICE FOR MORE INFORMATION.

Final Thoughts



Resolutions for a Safe 2008

Welcome to our final edition of the Friday Funnies for 2007, our annual issue of New Year's resolutions.



For starters, let's all try hard to increase the prevalence of common sense. I know it's tough, but it is definitely worthwhile, even if it does mean a decrease in our source material here at the Friday Funnies news desk. Perhaps we can avoid incidents like the following.

An E-3 aviation ordnanceman was doing some prep work in a head, getting ready to do some painting aboard a ship tied up in San Diego. He cut some paper with a razor blade. He then put the razor in his pocket and, the report says, "stepped out of a chair." The razor neatly sliced through his coveralls and into his leg, where it inflicted a seven-stitch gash.

Good one. Plus, what's that about stepping out of a chair? He wouldn't have been using a chair as a ladder, would he? If so, that suggests another excellent resolution.

Here are the rest of our resolutions for the new year. Please join with me and read these aloud.

I will not douse a pile of brush with gasoline (a.k.a. "the idiot's friend"), light it with a match, and then act surprised when i no longer have eyebrows.

I will not play football on a field that has a tree stump on it.

I will not do clap push-ups on a concrete floor and miss.

I will not try to ride a bike down stairs.

I will not torch off a can of WD-40 and then refer to anything else that happens as "accidental."

I will not convince myself that the three-second rule for cars is the three-tenths-of-a-second rule for ATVs.

I will not let a firecracker explode in my hand and then claim it was a "manufacturing defect."

If I'm riding a bike and the chain slips off, I will not try to fix it without stopping the bike.

I will not spill Everclear on my arm and then light it to see if it will burn.

I will not drive down a hill so fast that my car hits a bump and goes airborne at the bottom, and then lose control and smash into a Lexus.

That's all for now, friends and neighbors. Thanks for spending some time with us during 2007. We hope you have made it through with all your digits and no new scars. See you in 2008.

-- from Naval Safety Center

FORCM *Continued from Page 6*

degrade mission readiness. I challenge each command to have one less DUI/ARI in 2008.

It is important that all hands remain focused throughout 2008 on suicide prevention. This is not just a command leadership issue. It is about being a shipmate. According to Navy statistics, suicide is the 3rd leading cause of death among our active duty Sailors. Remember the warning signs which include but are not limited to depression, substance abuse, talk of suicide, relationship difficulties, isolation and impulsive behavior. Every Sailor should know

these warning signs and be ready to take action immediately. COMPACFLT message DTG 111819Z DEC 07 refers to the acronym AID LIFE which can help every Sailor remember the actions to take if you suspect a shipmate may be in danger.

Each one of you make up the greatest Navy the world has ever know. We rely upon one another day in and day out and we share a common bond as shipmates that no one can break. No one else in the world has the same amount of camaraderie, trust or concern for one another than United States Sailors. Our priorities should be Ship, Shipmate and Self..

Stay safe and have a great year.

Editor's Top 10

Resolutions We Made This Year

10. Our sports contributors resolve to print the actual scores of major sporting events while underway, not what they wish the scores had been.
9. Man on the Street resolves to accost even more people on camera during the new year.
8. We rasolve dat we won't make no more silly spellin or gramr miss takes.
7. In honor of those geniuses at Hallmark, it is hereby resolved that every edition of the Penny Press from now on will smell like cinnamon and play music when opened.
6. Our underway daily editor resolves to lower his caffeine intake in exchange for sleep.
5. We will no longer misquote anyone over the paygrade of O-6.
4. We resolve to stop advertising for events that don't exist. All activities mentioned in this paper from now on are for real. We swear...
3. Our writers resolve to decrease procrastination by 10%. Work on stories will now begin at least five minutes before deadline.
2. Our photo staff resolves to use the phrase "Just one more shot..." less than a dozen times per photo shoot. "Say cheese" will now be substituted whenever possible.
1. We resolve to tackle more hard-hitting journalism. After all, who wants to read about COMRELS and Safety Programs when you could be reading about Paris Hilton's underwear (or lack thereof)?