

# Lincoln completes flight deck cert

STORY BY MCSN JERINE LEE  
*Penny Press Staff*

After months of preparation and training, USS Abraham Lincoln (CVN 72) Sailors successfully completed flight deck certification Feb. 10, giving Lincoln authorization to conduct routine day and night flight operations.

Lincoln’s air department started training for these qualifications in early 2009, with Sailors training on other carriers and the decommissioned carriers Ranger and Kitty Hawk. This put them ahead of the game to complete the flight deck certification.

“We took a lot of time and work getting ready for this certification so it didn’t take us long to become comfortable back on the flight deck and working with the air wing. The execution of each test got better and the drills went by smoother every day,” said Lt. Kent Davis, Lincoln’s Air Boatswain.

A day prior to the certification process, the air department received a basic safety brief in the ship’s hangar bay, and reviewed policies and procedures for flight deck operations and how to work together as a team.

“We had to push how important it is to communicate between each other. When we are on the flight deck, we are a team,” said Davis.

After completing flight deck certification, Lincoln’s air department will continue their hard work throughout the ship’s future qualifications.

“We are ready for our next mission,” said Davis. “It’s game time.”



Photo by MCSN Robert Robbins

Catapult Officer Lt. Cmdr. Jessica R. Parker signals for a C-2A of the VRC-30 “Providers” squadron to launch from USS Abraham Lincoln’s (CVN 72) flight deck. The Lincoln is on its way back to its homeport of Everett, Wash. after successfully completing flight deck certification.

<b>Inside</b>	Baptisms on board Lincoln ...pg. 4		Lincoln celebrates Valentine’s Day ....6-7		Spotlight Sailor.....2 CVW-2 photos.....8-9 Leisure & Recreation.10
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## Know Your Shipmates

**ENFN  
Matthew Thayer**

**Hometown:**  
*Lake Stevens, Wash.*

**Quote:**  
*"Live life to the fullest."*

**Hobbies:**  
*Working on my car, seeing movies.*

**What I like about my job:**  
*"I have good hours and I get to hang out with friends."*

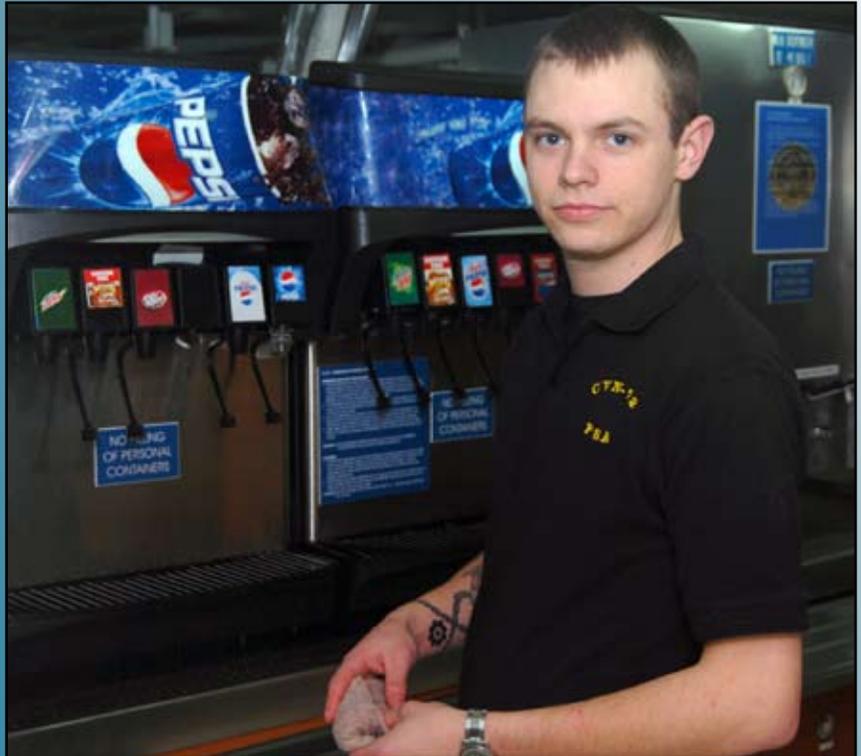


Photo and information gathered by MCSN Jacquelyn D. Childs

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## Unmanned aircraft takes shape on CVN-72



Artist concept illustration

The X-47B will be the first unmanned jet aircraft to take off and land aboard an aircraft carrier. With a 62-foot wingspan, and length of 38 feet, the X-47B is about 87 percent the size of the F/A-18C aircraft currently operating on board Navy aircraft carriers.

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**STORY BY USS ABRHAM LINCOLN,  
PUBLIC AFFAIRS**  
*Penny Press Staff*

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Personnel from the Navy Unmanned Combat Air System (N-UCAS) program team and industry partner Northrop Grumman Corporation are underway with USS Abraham Lincoln to test the integration of existing ship systems with new systems that will support the X-47B Unmanned Combat Air System Demonstration (UCAS-D). This effort will reduce program risks and is one of many steps toward the X-47B's first carrier arrested landing or "trap."

The X-47B will be the first unmanned jet aircraft to take off and land aboard an aircraft carrier. With a 62-foot wingspan, and length of 38 feet, the X-47B is about 87 percent the size of the F/A-18C aircraft currently operating on board Navy aircraft carriers.

The UCAS-D effort is focused on developing and demonstrating an aircraft carrier (CV) suitable, low observable (LO) unmanned air system in support of persistent, penetrating surveillance, and penetrating strike capabilities in high threat areas. The effort will evolve technologies

required to conduct launch, recovery, and carrier controlled airspace (CCA) operations and autonomous air refueling (AAR) of an LO platform. By FY13, the Navy plans to achieve UCAS CV demonstration; achieve hybrid probe & drogue (USN style) and boom/receptacle (USAF style) AAR demonstration; and evaluate and identify technologies supporting future Naval capability requirements.

Mark Pilling, a former Naval Flight Officer with operational unmanned aircraft experience, is the team's mission operator.

He and his team are charged with verifying mission operator software between the ship and aircraft. "This is the first step in the X-47B's integration into the carrier's systems," said Pilling.

The team is testing X-47B software integration by using a King Air turbo prop "surrogate" aircraft taking off and landing from shore. As the aircraft approaches the carrier, it performs the same types of procedures as manned aircraft. However, since the X-47B is unmanned, digital messages from shipboard controllers will be used to control the aircraft instead of verbal instructions. In response to the digital command and control messages,

the plane's software confirms, complies and sends a "wilco" signal back to the controllers and mission operator.

"Over the last two at sea periods on Lincoln, we have integrated into a number of the ship systems, from PriFly, to CATCC, to the LSO platform," said Pilling.

Janice Stolzy, the Northrop Grumman project lead, is onboard to verify that the prototype equipment works in a real-time operational environment. Stolzy said successful UCAS-D system testing on Lincoln will set the stage for additional developmental testing later this year, including testing the software integration using an F/A-18 surrogate aircraft to more closely emulate the X-47B's flight path.

John Zander, Naval Air Systems Command (NAVAIR) Lead Test Engineer, said a prime benefit of a UCAS concept is to reduce the risk to human pilots.

"This is an important milestone for the Navy and we're making great strides on board Lincoln," said Zander.

Additional UCAS-D development activities are underway at multiple NAVAIR and Northrop Grumman sites throughout the United States.

First flight of the X-47B is expected later this year.



## Sailor's child becomes part of CVN 72 history

STORY BY MCSN JERINE LEE

*Penny Press Staff*

Baptism is a religious sacrament that signifies a person's rebirth or cleansing to the Christianity faith. It is a powerful, symbolic, ritual act of God that has been carried on for thousands of years. A baptism on board USS Abraham Lincoln (CVN 72) carries the same custom. It is a holy ceremony and one of the Navy's oldest traditions.

"A baptism is a religious rite that most people do not remember because they were infants," said Lt. j.g. Benton Garrett, a Navy chaplain. "Whenever others attend a baptism of a loved one, they think 'what will this child become?' A baptism is beautiful, because it is that thought that helps the continuity of baptism from one generation to the next."

It is Navy tradition to baptize the child over the ship's bell, placed upside-down and filled with holy water.

The fog bell was used in the Royal British Navy as an audible means of communication to signal other ships during times of low visibility. In a baptism, the bell represents a navigational aid; charting the course of life as a child of God.

After a baptism, the participant's name is engraved on the inside of the bell, forever making the person a part of the ship's history. After the ship's decommissioning, it is Navy tradition to give the bell to the family of the ship's first baptism.

Lincoln currently has eight names engraved on its bell. The most recent baptism was held Jan. 24 in the ship's chapel, with Chaplain Garrett performing the baptism for Chief Aviation Electronics Technician Douglas Lively's son, David Jonathan Lively.

"The Navy is my family's way of life, so when we had the opportunity to have

our first-born baptized on the ship, there was no question about where we wanted to hold the ceremony," said Lively, a LaCrosse, Wis. "I would not want anybody but a Navy chaplain to perform such an honor for our child and Father Garrett was excellent."

The Lively baptism was also Garrett's first on board Lincoln.

"It was a beautiful moment to see a young family with a newborn son," said Garrett, a Ingleside, Texas native. "I was deeply honored to take part in such an important moment that will be remembered forever."

Lively commented he was proud to have his son a part of the special tradition.

"I am honored to have my son a part of Lincoln's history with seven other

Lincoln Sailor's children," said Lively. "Few people have the privilege of saying that they were baptized on an aircraft carrier, so when David becomes old enough, he will learn that he is a part of Lincoln's legacy."

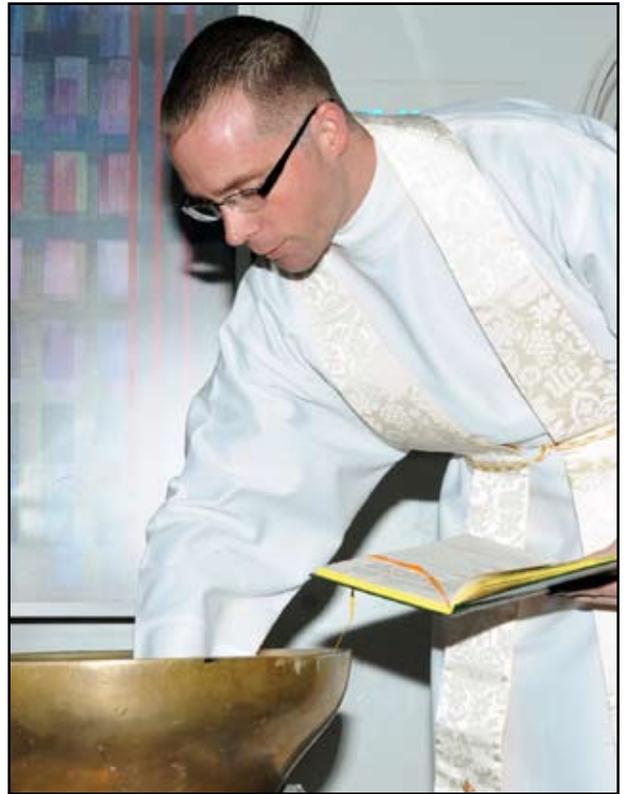


Photo by MCSN Jerine Lee

**Navy chaplain, Lt. j.g. Benton Garrett blesses the holy water in the fog bell held upside-down during a baptism in the ship's chapel on board USS Abraham Lincoln (CVN 72).**



Photo by MCSN Jerine Lee

**Navy chaplain, Lt. j.g. Benton Garrett, pours holy water on Chief Aviation Electronics Technician Douglas Lively's son, David Jonathan, over a fog bell during a baptism in the ship's chapel, Jan. 24.**

# Around the Ship:

## LINCOLN'S FINEST



photo by MCSN Robert Robbins  
Aviation Boatswain's Mate 3rd Class (SS) Matthew A. Cochran repairs an air tight door leading out into USS Abraham Lincoln's (CVN 72) hangar bay.



photo by MCSN Jeremiah Mills  
Machinist Mate Fireman Russell Gentry, assigned to USS Abraham Lincoln's (CVN 72) auxiliary division, adjusts a field valve that provides steam for flight deck catapults that launch aircraft.



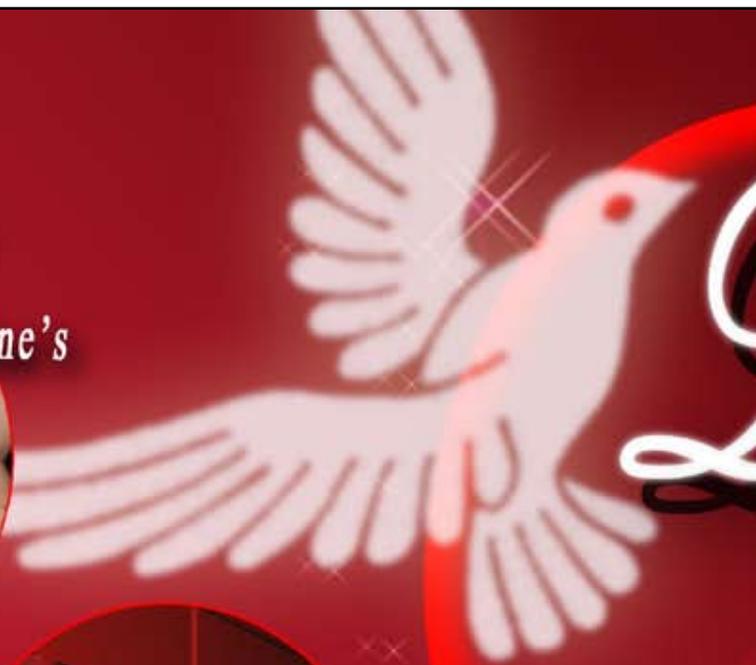
Photo by MC2 Luciano Marano  
Aviation Boatswain's Mate (Equipment) James Prevot, a Palm Beach, FL native, performs standard lubrication maintenance on flight deck arresting gears on USS Abraham Lincoln (CVN-72). The gears catch and slow every aircraft that lands on the flight deck, and must be lubricated properly to keep them from catching fire due to the intense friction.



photo by MCSN Robert Robbins  
Culinary Specialist Seaman Darien E. Barnett operates a waste shredder in USS Abraham Lincoln's (CVN 72) trash processing room.

ABHAN Maria Pierce  
Air/V-3

What was your best Valentine's Day gift?  
"Godiva chocolate!"



SCB



AOAN Alexandra Dusek  
Weps/G-2

What was your best Valentine's Day gift?  
"A brand new cell phone!"



ABHAN Jarvis Thomas  
Air/V-3

What was your worst Valentine's Day experience?  
"One Valentine's Day, I was on a date and waited three hours at a restaurant for her. When I was driving home, I saw her car at another restaurant. Found out she was on a date with another guy!"

What was y  
"In middle sc

# Lincoln Love

CSSN Kaley Jackson  
Supply/S-7

What was your best Valentine's Day experience?  
"Going to the beach with friends."



CSSN Darien Barnett  
Supply/S-2

What was your worst Valentine's Day gift?  
"At school, I got a half-eaten burger and three fries."



ABEAN Alecia Brust  
Air/V-2 Waist

What was your worst Valentine's Day experience?  
"I broke my nose one year at a softball game."

# CV-22 flies through



Photo by MC3 Colby Neal

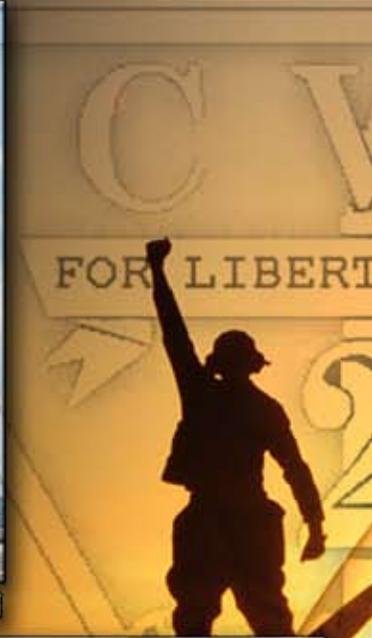


Photo by MC2 Brandon Wilson



Photo by MC2 Luciano Marano



Photo by MCSN Robert Robbins

# carrier qualifications



Photo by MC3 Colby Neal

**The USS Abraham Lincoln (CVN-72) recently completed flight deck certification during an underway period off the coast of Southern California with Carrier Air Wing (CVW) 2 in preparation for a fall 2010 deployment in support of maritime security operations.**

## **Counter-clockwise from left:**

**An F/A 18 aircraft assigned to the "Bounty Hunters" of Strike Fighter Squadron (VFA) 2 prepares to land on board the USS Abraham Lincoln (CVN-72) during flight operations, Feb. 10.**

**Commander, Carrier Strike Group NINE (CCSG-9), Rear Adm. Mark D. Guadagnini passes through side boys as he arrives on USS Abraham Lincoln's (CVN-72) flight deck, Feb. 10.**

**Sailors maneuver a fuel tank off of a flight deck elevator and into the hangar bay on board USS Abraham Lincoln (CVN-72), Feb. 9.**

**A C-2A assigned to the "Providers of Carrier Logistics Squadron (VRC) 30 makes an approach to land on USS Abraham Lincoln's (CVN-72) flight deck, Feb. 10.**

## **Pictured above:**

**An F/A 18 aircraft assigned to the "Bounty Hunters" of Strike Fighter Squadron (VFA) 2 prepares to take off from USS Abraham Lincoln's (CVN-72) flight deck, Feb. 10.**

# Leisure & Recreation

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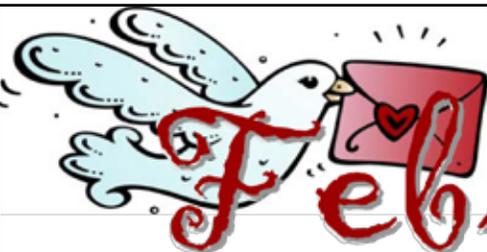
**SONY**  
**PHILIPS**  
**Nikon**  
**Canon**

A hand is holding a camera lens, with water splashing around it. The background is a light blue color.



Photo by MCSN Robert Robbins

A MH-60S of the Helicopter Sea Combat Squadron HSC-12 "Golden Falcons" prepares to land on USS Abraham Lincoln's flight deck. The helicopter was the first aircraft to land on Lincoln's flight deck after the ship's nine-month yard period. The Lincoln is on its way back to its homeport of Everett, Wash. after successfully completing flight deck certification.



## Naval Station Everett Fleet & Family Readiness Program

See reverse for event times, locations and details.

# February 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>14</b> Valentine's Dinner at the All American	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> Last day Princess Katie tickets (ITT, February 27 show) Fat Tuesday Celebration (Tremors) (4-H) Making Cents Poker Tournament	<b>17</b> Stress Mgnt. How to Find the Dream Job – Career Exploration Job Search Strategies	<b>18</b> Bingo Night	<b>19</b> Free Family Swim Myers-Briggs Type Indicator (MBTI) and Careers	<b>20</b> Saturday Ski Shuttle to Stevens Pass Mountaineering Class: Ice Axe Arrest Cosmic Bowling
<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> Separation TAP Paying for College with the GI Bill Last day for Chicago tickets (ITT, March 6 show)	<b>23</b> Separation TAP (4-H) Making Cents Call of Duty Tournament	<b>24</b> Separation TAP Lunchtime Swim Meet	<b>25</b> Separation TAP Home Buying Military Saves Jeopardy Night	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> Saturday Ski Shuttle to Stevens Pass Snowshoeing at Stevens Pass Snow Tubing at Snoqualmie Pass

## Editor's Top 10

### Top 10 worst Valentine's Day gifts:

10. A Picture of yourself.
9. Flowers or candy he/she is allergic to.
8. A gift that your ex gave you - that's just wrong.
7. Gift cards - the best way to say I remembered at the last minute!
6. Snuggie = tacky.
5. Self-help books: how to ruin a relationship for dummies!
4. Cheap jewelry- ring pop anyone?
3. Cheap perfume- no "high karate."
2. Colored paper and crayons, (generic card). Way to go.
1. Nothing.



## Shipmates

The strength of a warship lies in the hearts and hands of its crew.



Photo by MCSN Jerine Lee

Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Christopher Dollar receives a command coin in the bridge on board USS Abraham Lincoln (CVN 72) from the Commanding Officer, Capt. John D. Alexander, Feb. 11.

## Keep up with the Lincoln

visit

[www.navy.mil/local/cvn72](http://www.navy.mil/local/cvn72)

Or visit **USS Abraham Lincoln's fanpage on Facebook** to get up-to-date information on the ship's status, and check out new photos.