



RECONNAISSANCE ATTACK
SQUADRON TWELVE
USS Constellation

Seventh Fleet Cruise
1967





USS Constellation





USS Constellation/Air Wing CVW-14

- Homeport departure/return: 29 April 1967 - 4 December 1967
- In-chop/out-chop: 15 May 1967 - 26 November 1967
- On Line periods:
 - 28 May 1967 - 11 June 1967;
 - 19 June 1967 - 24 July 1967;
 - 2 August 1967 - 3 September 1967;
 - 26 September 1967 - 13 October 1967;
 - 24 October 1967 - 11 November 1967

Total: 121 days on the line



Squadrons

VF-142	F-4B	NK	2xx
VF-143	F-4B	NK	3xx
VA-55	A-4C	NK	5xx
VA-146	A-4C	NK	6xx
VA-196	A-6A	NK	4xx
VAH-8 Det 64	A-3B/KA-3B	NK	1xx
RVAH-12	RA-5C	NK	12x
VAW-113	E-2A	NK	75x
HC-1 Det 64	UH-2A/B	UP	xx



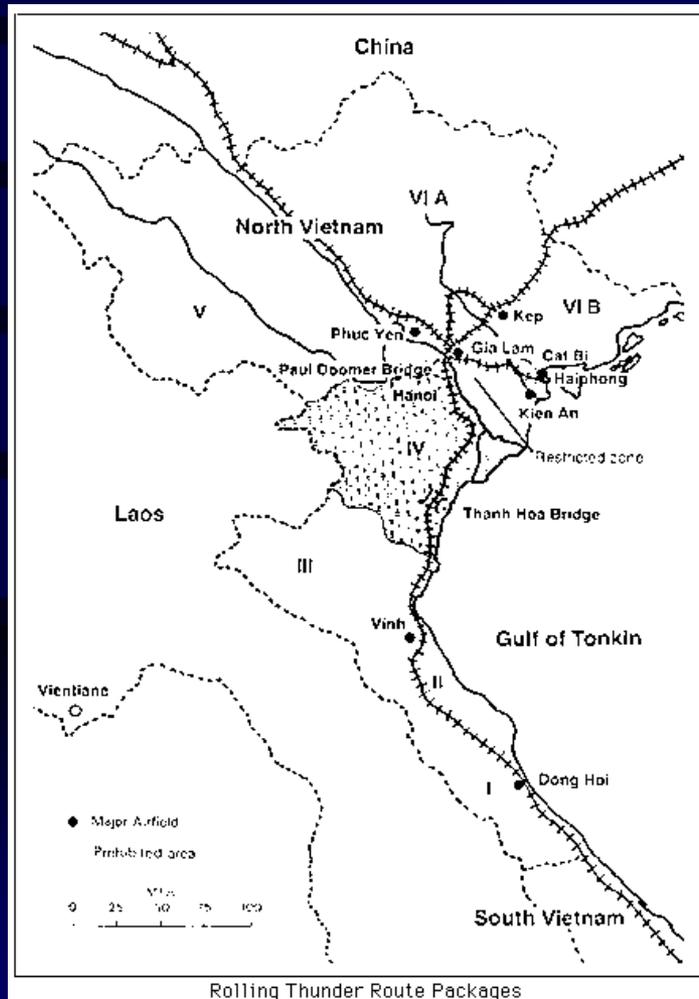
Open House at NAS Atsugi



May 21, 1967



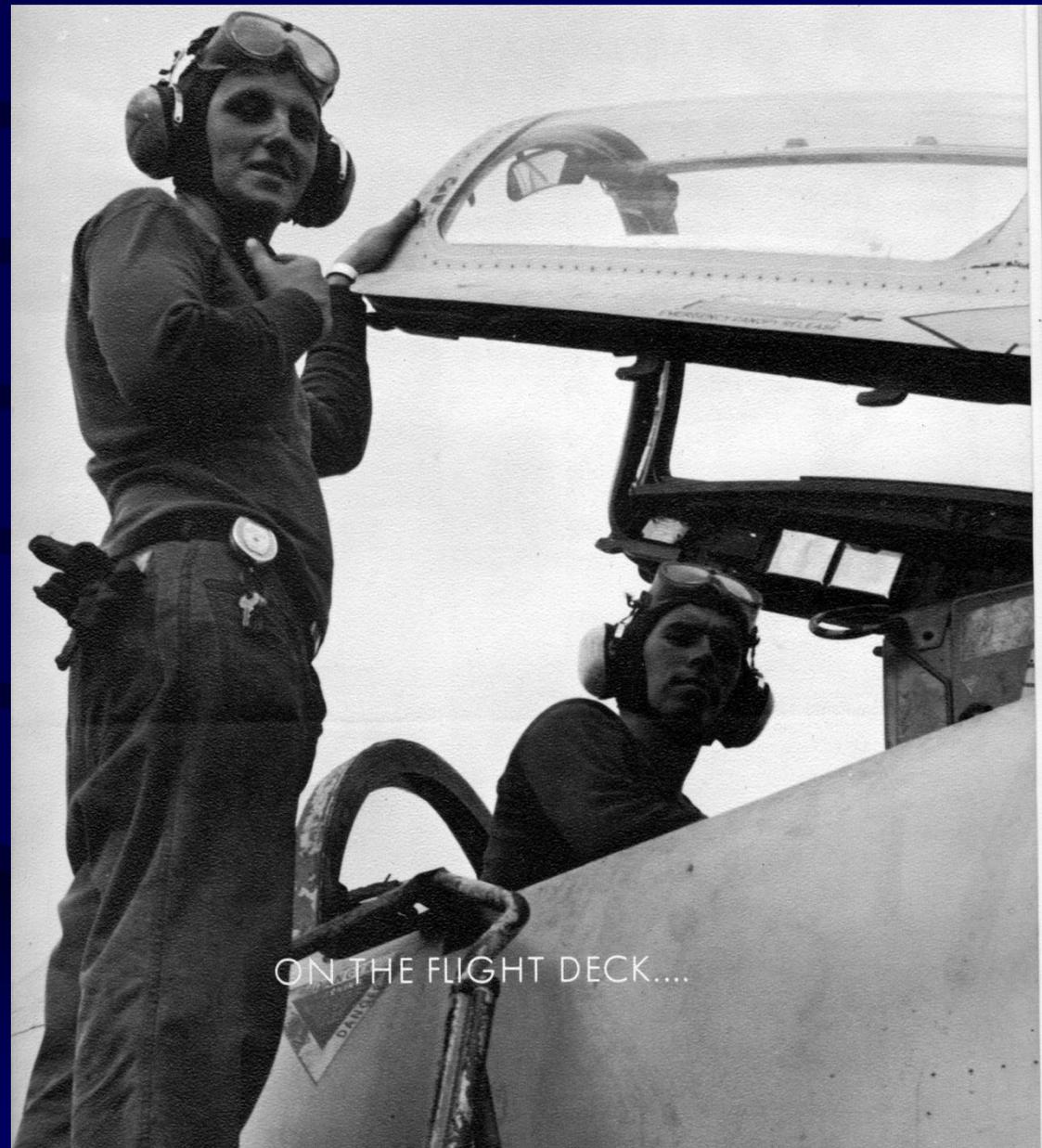
Principal Combat Operations



- **Rolling Thunder-Alpha** strikes mainly into Package VI B
- **Blue Tree-** recce operations in package IV and others



Pre-flight



ON THE FLIGHT DECK....

AN Doyle (1) and ADJ3 Nussbaum



Flight Deck





Launch and Transit



F-4 Escort





Turning for Ingress Point





Approach to Haiphong



Photo taken with 5" forward oblique camera from about 12,000'



Overhead Haiphong



Photo taken with 18" pan camera from about 12,000'



Camouflaged Patrol Boats

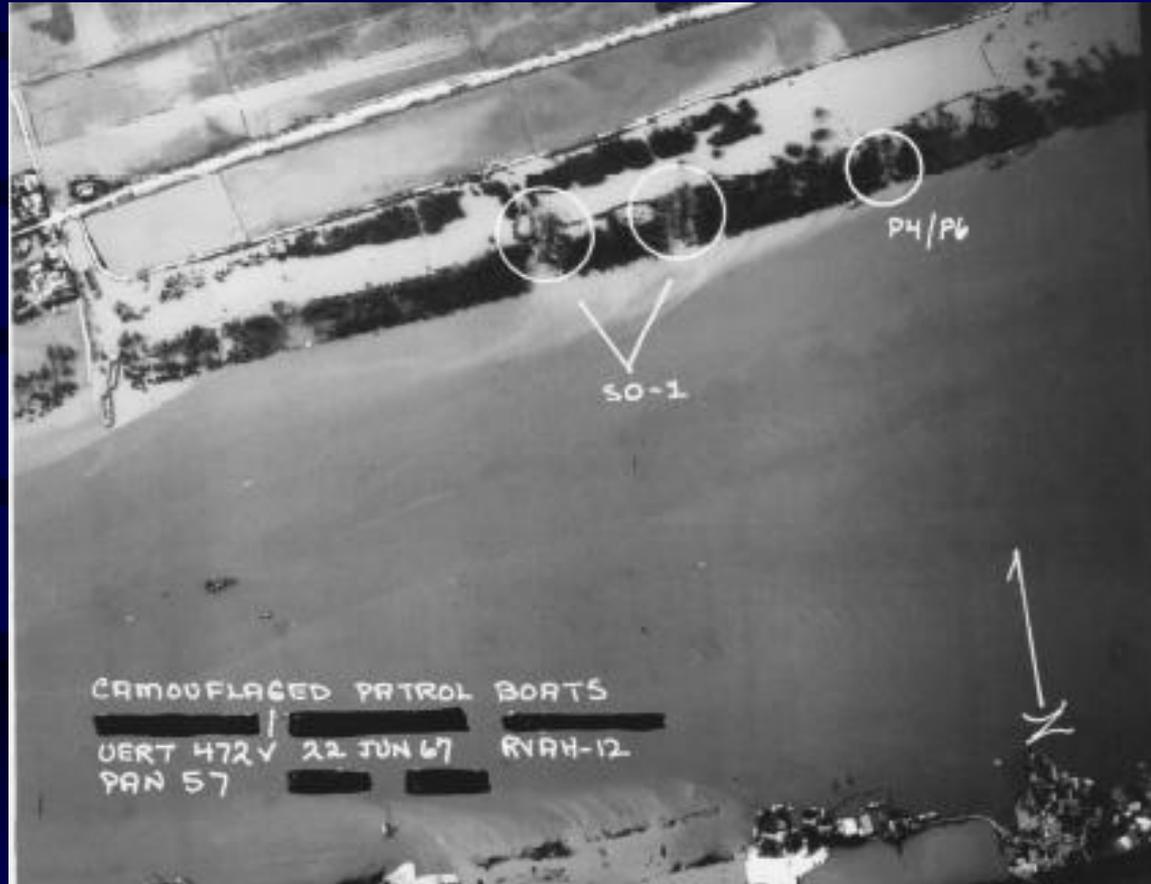
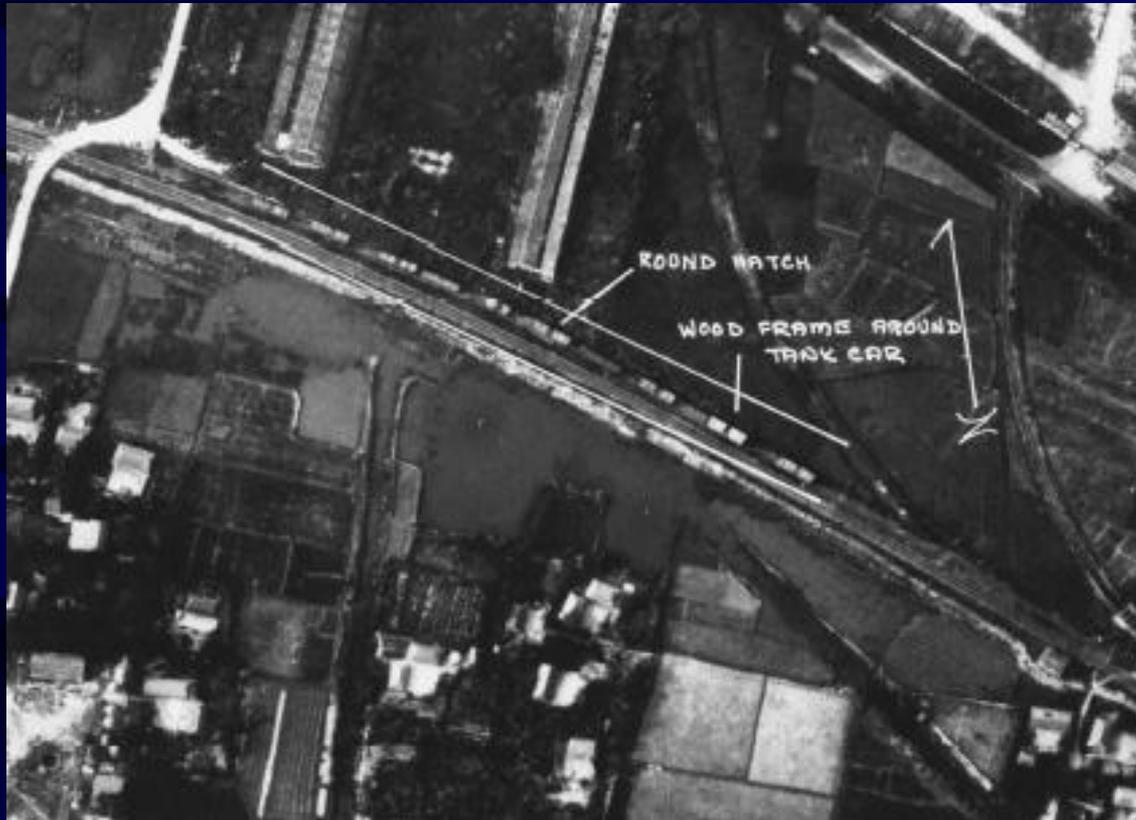


Photo taken with 18" pan camera from about 12,000'



Camouflaged POL Tank Cars





SA-2 in Flight



Photo taken with opposite 5" side oblique during SAM evasion maneuver (120 deg angle of bank, 10,000' descending)



Over the ramp





Forrestal Fire



July 1967. Constellation was also required to cut short an inport period to replace Coral Sea after she was damaged in an mid-sea collision.



Operational losses (4)

- 2 August 1967: A-4C (149632) of VA-55; pilot recovered.
- 8 August 1967: A-4C (147719) of VA-146; pilot recovered.
- **17 August 1967: RA-5C (149302) of RVAH-12; both crew members killed (CDR Dion, LTJG Hom).**
- 3 November 1967: KA-3B (147653) of VAH-8: all three crew members killed.



CDR Dion and LTJG Hom

USS CONSTELLATION CVA-64

Reconnaissance Attack Squadron

Twelve



IN MEMORY OF

COMMANDER
LAURENT NORBER DION
UNITED STATES NAVY
25 JANUARY 1929 - 17 AUGUST 1967

LIEUTENANT JUNIOR GRADE
CHARLES DAVID HOM
UNITED STATES NAVY
28 FEBRUARY 1943 - 17 AUGUST 1967



Commander Laurent Norber DION, United States Navy, son of Mrs. Bertha Emma DION of Providence and Central Falls, Rhode Island, reported to Reconnaissance Attack Squadron TWELVE (RVAH-12) as Executive Officer on 5 February 1967.

Commander DION progressed through the Providence, S. I. school system and entered Brown University in 1947. Upon receiving a degree in Engineering from Brown University, CDR DION entered the Navy as an Ensign. His first tour of duty in 1952 was aboard the Attack Cargo Ship USS HANKE (AKA-103). After leaving USS HANKE in 1952 he reported to NAS Pensacola Florida and entered flight training. He was designated a Naval Aviator in March 1954. After receiving his Navy Wings of Gold, CDR DION reported to Utility Squadron FOUR, then to Guided Missile Group TWO. He served as flight instructor at NAS Corpus Christi and NAS Chase Field Texas, instructing advanced flight students in TV-2 & F4F cougar jet aircraft. In 1961 he attended the Aviation Safety School at the University of Southern California. Upon completion of Safety School, he reported to Reconnaissance Attack Squadron THREE, as a replacement pilot in the AD Skywarrior and ASA Vigilante. CDR DION then received orders to VAW-7, which was the Fleet Fleet squadron to deploy with the A4A aircraft. In November 1964, he again reported to RVAH-3 as the Training and Assistant Operations Officer.

CDR DION is survived by his wife the former Miss Joan F. Wells and his three children Patricia, Paul and Peter.



LTJG Charles David HOM, United States Naval Reserve, son of Mr. and Mrs. Elbert L. HOM of Huntington Park, California, reported to Reconnaissance Attack Squadron TWELVE (RVAH-12) on 31 January 1967.

LTJG HOM progressed through the Los Angeles, California school system, entering Los Angeles City College in 1960. In 1963 he attended Los Angeles State College. Upon leaving college LTJG HOM came into the Navy and entered the Naval Aviation Officer Flight Training Program. On 1 October, 1964 he was commissioned as Ensign at Naval Aviation Officer School Pensacola, Florida. LTJG HOM next reported to RVAH-3 and on 16 September 1965 was designated a Naval Flight Officer.

Upon completion of his training at RVAH-3, LTJG HOM reported to RVAH-9, which deployed to WestPac. While at RVAH-9, he served as assistant administration officer. While in WestPac, LTJG HOM earned four Air Medals and a Navy Commendation Medal with Combat "V".

LTJG HOM is survived by his wife the former Miss Pamela L. Vanhorn.





Air Combat victories (4):

- 10 August 1967: MiG-21 shot down by F-4B (152247, NK 202, Lt Guy H. Freeborn and Lt (jg) Robert J. Elliot) of VF-142.
- 10 August 1967: MiG-21 shot down by F-4B (150431, NK 2??, LCdr Robert C. Davis and LCdr Gayle O. Elie) of VF-142.
- 26 October 1967: MiG-21 shot down by F-4B (149411, NK 1??, Lt (jg) Robert P. Hickey, Jr. and Lt (jg) Jeremy C. Morris) of VF-143
- 30 October 1967: MiG-17 shot down by F-4B (150629, NK 203, LCdr Eugene P. Lund and Lt (jg) James R. Borst of VF-142.



Combat losses (22 total) 1:

19 June 1967: F-4B of VF-142; AAA; North Vietnam; LCdr F. L. Raines and Ens C. L. Lewnes, both recovered.

28 June 1967: F-4B of VF-143; AAA; North Vietnam; Cdr W. P. Lawrence and Lt (jg) J. W. Bailey, both POW.

30 June 1967: A-4C of VA-146; AAA; North Vietnam; Lt J. W. McGrawth, POW.

9 July 1967: A-4C of VA-146; SAM; North Vietnam; Lt C. R. Lee, KIA.

13 August 1967: RA-5C(151634, NK 125) of RVAH-12; AAA; North Vietnam; LCdr L. G. Hyatt and Lt (jg) W. K. Goodermote, both POW.



Combat losses -2

- 21 August 1967: F-4B of VF-142; AAA; North Vietnam; Cdr R. H. McGlohn and Lt (jg) S. M. McIlrath, both recovered.
- 21 August 1967: A-6A 0) of VA-196; SAM; North Vietnam; Cdr L. T. Profilet and LCdr W. M. Hardman, both POW.
- 21 August 1967: A-6A of VA-196; MiG; China; Lt (jg) D. V. Scott and Lt (jg) F. C. Trembley, both KIA.
- 21 August 1967: A-6A of VA-196; MiG; China; LCdr J. L. Bookley, KIA, and Lt R. J. Flynn, POW.



Combat losses -3

23 August 1967: F-4B of VF-142; SAM; North Vietnam;
LCdr T. W. Sitek and Ens P. L. Ness, both KIA.

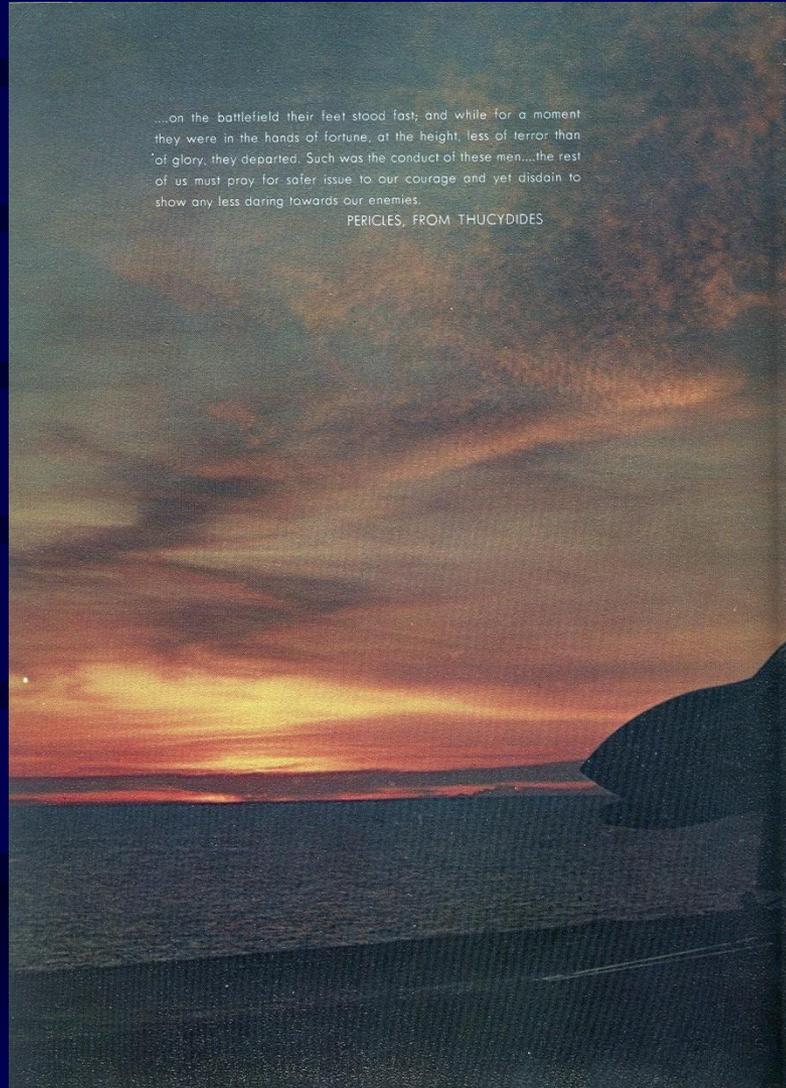
30 October 1967: F-4B of VF-142; own AIM--7E missile;
North Vietnam; LCdr H. P. Lund and Lt (jg) J. R. Borst,
both recovered.

2 November 1967: A-6A of VA-196; AAA; North Vietnam;
LCdr R. D. Morrow, KIA, and Lt J. J. Wright, MIA.

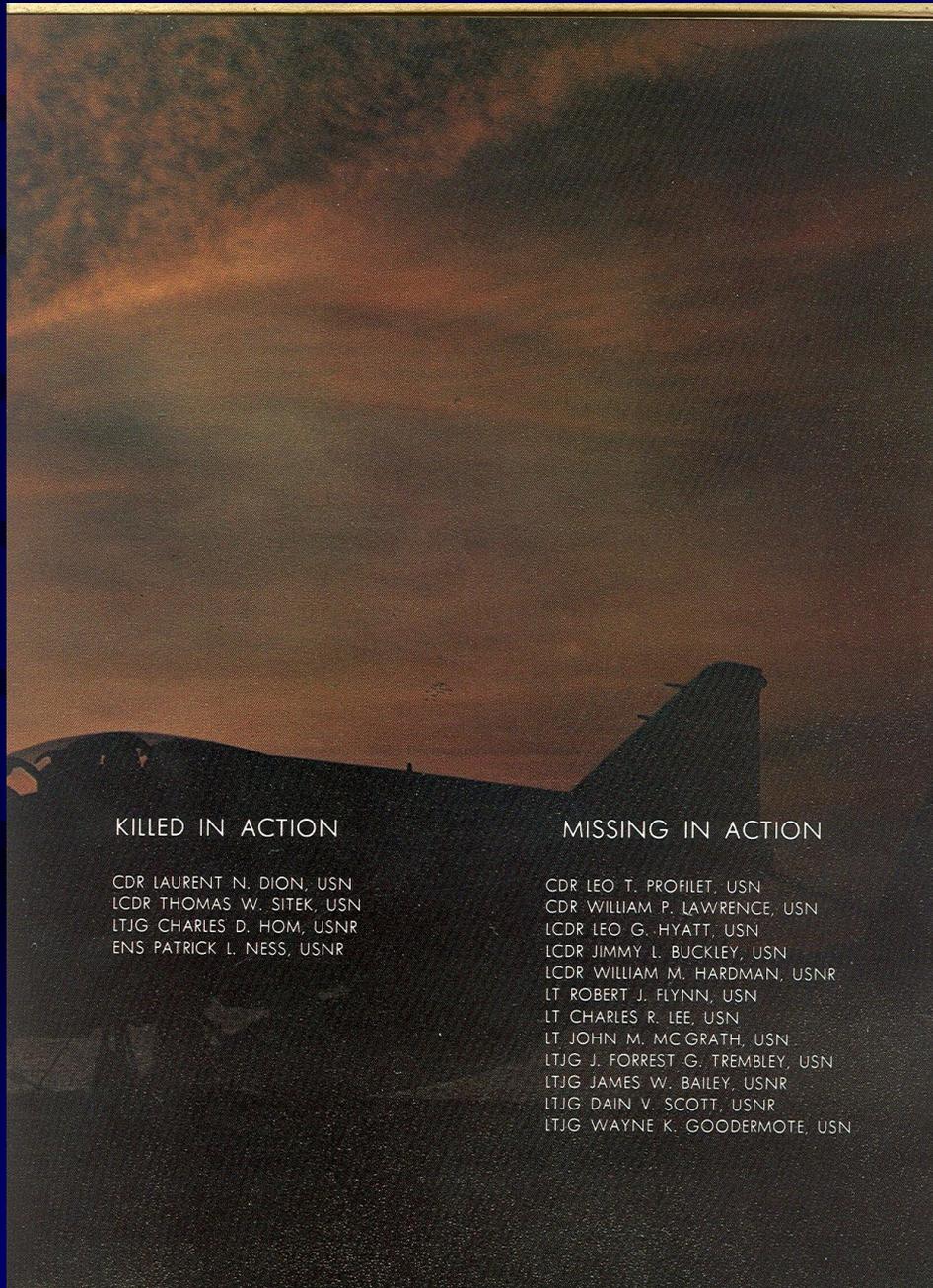


...on the battlefield their feet stood fast; and while for a moment they were in the hands of fortune, at the height, less of terror than of glory, they departed. Such was the conduct of these men...the rest of us must pray for safer issue to our courage and yet disdain to show any less daring towards our enemies.

PERICLES, FROM THUCYDIDES



Source: USS Constellation 1967 Cruise Book



USS Constellation 1967 Cruise Book

KILLED IN ACTION

CDR LAURENT N. DION, USN
LCDR THOMAS W. SITEK, USN
LTJG CHARLES D. HOM, USNR
ENS PATRICK L. NESS, USNR

MISSING IN ACTION

CDR LEO T. PROFILET, USN
CDR WILLIAM P. LAWRENCE, USN
LCDR LEO G. HYATT, USN
LCDR JIMMY L. BUCKLEY, USN
LCDR WILLIAM M. HARDMAN, USNR
LT ROBERT J. FLYNN, USN
LT CHARLES R. LEE, USN
LT JOHN M. MCGRATH, USN
LTJG J. FORREST G. TREMBLEY, USN
LTJG JAMES W. BAILEY, USNR
LTJG DAIN V. SCOTT, USNR
LTJG WAYNE K. GOODERMOTE, USN



Author: Rod Anderson
Rod.anderson@sbcglobal.net