



Captain James H. Patrick

United States Navy

Captain James H. Patrick is the Commanding Officer, Support Facility, Diego Garcia, British Indian Ocean Territory.

Captain Patrick was born in Phoenix, Arizona in 1941. He enlisted in the U.S. Navy in 1970. Following acceptance into the Navy Enlisted Scientific Education Program, he graduated from the University of Utah with a Bachelor of Science in Meteorology, and was commissioned an Ensign in 1973.

He reported to VT-10 at NAS Pensacola, Florida in April 1977, and subsequently to RVAW-110 at Miramar, California where he was designated a Naval Flight Officer in September 1978.

Captain Patrick's first assignment as an NFO was flying E-2Bs with the VAW-115 "Liberty Bells" at Futenma, Japan. As a member of CVW-5, he made four deployments to the Indian Ocean aboard USS CV-41. In June 1981, he reported to Commander in Chief, U.S. Pacific Command at Hickam Air Force Base, Hawaii for duty as Battle Staff Intelligence Officer with the CINCPAC Airborne Command Post "Blindfold". Captain Patrick was assigned in April 1984 to the Staff of Commander, Cruiser Destroyer Group 1 in San Diego, California. While serving as Assistant Air Operations Officer, he made one deployment to the Western Pacific as a member of the initial deployment of a Battleship Battle Group (BBBG), with the USS JERSEY (BB-62) Battle Group. Assigned to the "Firebirds" of VAW-110 in August 1986, he completed training in the E-2C, and served as Assistant Operations Officer, and Administrative Officer. Assigned to the "Hornet Hawks" of VAW-114 in June 1988, he served as Operations Officer and maintenance Officer. He completed two Western Pacific deployments, and participated in PACEX 89 aboard USS CARL VINSON as a member of CVW-15. In December 1990 he rejoined the "Firebirds" of VAW-110 as Executive Officer.

Captain Patrick reported back to VAW-114 as Executive officer in January 1992, where he made his first Pacific deployment with CVW-15 aboard USS KITTY HAWK (CV-63), which included participation in RESTORE HOPE relief efforts for Somalia and combat operations in Iraq during Operation SOUTHERN WATCH. He assumed command of the "Hawks" on 28 May 1993 and completed one deployment to Panama for drug interdiction operations. During his command tour, the "Hawks" earned the CINCPACFLT Gold Award for personnel retention, and the CNO Safety Award.

In July 1994, Captain Patrick reported to Commander, Third Fleet and served as Carrier Task Force Ready Group, and Middle East Force Training and Readiness Officer, responsible for the final phase training and final certification of all West Coast deploying units. In 1996/97, he completed Joint Professional Military Education Phase I training at the United States Air Force's Air War College at Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama. In July 1997 he was assigned to the United States Strategic Command at Offutt AFB, Nebraska, Air Command Post Operations Branch, flying on the EC-135 "Looking Glass" aircraft as a team Mission Specialist. He moved to the Command Center Division as an Operations Center Senior Controller in April 1999 assumed duty as Chief, Mobile Division, responsible for the Airborne Command Post Operations, consolidated Command Center Operations, and the METOC Support Branches.

Captain Patrick has accumulated over 3600 flight hours and 535 carrier arrested landings. His decorations include the Defense Superior Service Medal, Legion of Merit, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, Air Medal (3 Strike/Flight Awards), Navy Commendation Medal (Fifth Award), Good Conduct Medal (Fourth Award), Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal (Second Award), Vietnam Service Medal, Southwest Asia Service Medal, Kuwait Liberation Medal and various campaign and unit awards.

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