

VS-33 Wins PacFlt "E" Award

Award Isbell Trophy for ASW Excellence

Anti-submarine Squadron Thirty-Three adds a hash mark! For the second consecutive year they have captured the coveted Battle Efficiency Pennant over eight other VS squadrons on the West Coast operating with Naval Air Force, Pacific Fleet.

Cdr. J. A. Blair, Squadron Commander, was notified of the award by message from Commander, Naval Air Pacific during the ship's visit to Iwakuni.

The overall scoring was based upon the squadron's competitive exercises; operational, administrative and material inspections, and safety during the fiscal year 1963.

Adding to the "E" award, VS-33 was recipient of the 1963 Isbell Air Trophy sponsored by Martin Aircraft Company of Baltimore, Md. The trophy is in memory of Capt. Arnold Jay Isbell, USN, who was awarded the Distinguished Service Medal for having distinguished himself during WW II in conducting ASW against hostile submarines.

Living up to their squadron motto, "Fortune Favors The Brave", VS-33 has flown over 24,000 hours since commissioning in April, 1960 and are on their third deployment to the Western Pacific aboard BENN.

From Rear Adm. Turner F. Caldwell, Commander, Antisubmarine Warfare Group Five, the squadron recieved the following message:

"HEARTIEST CONGRATULATIONS. IT IS GRATIFYING TO HAVE MEMBERS OF OUR TEAM CITED FOR OUTSTANDING ACCOMPLISHMENTS. THE WINNING OF THE BATTLE EFFICIENCY AWARD REFLECTS THE HIGHEST CREDIT UPON YOURSELF, YOUR OFFICERS AND MEN. WELL DONE."



HASH MARK "E"- is placed on the nose of a VS-33 plane by (from left) E.L. Arb, AMH2, R. E. Schalk, AMH3 and R. W. Weaver, AMH3.



FINISHING TOUCH- is applied to the hash mark by CDR. J.A. Blair, VS-33 Commanding Officer, with an assist from A.A. Blodgett, AMEC.

VA-93 Skyhawks Provide Task Group Fighter Cover

Bennington's fighter cover, VA-93 Det. Q, was formed in November 1963 at N.A.S. Lemore, California, consisting of six officers, 48 enlisted men, and their planes, four sleek A-4B Skyhawk jet aircraft.

The mighty fighter-bomber of VA-93 is capable of performing a variety of conventional and nuclear attack missions in addition to the swift and deadly fighter role it now maintains.

The primary mission of the Fighting Ravens is to maintain control of the skies by seeking out and destroying enemy aircraft.

(SEE PHOTO ON BACK PAGE)

On "bogey" intercept flights, these speedy little midgets carry hundreds of rounds of 20mm ammo and two deadly Sidewinder heat-seeking missiles. Pity the unfriendly aircraft who dares approach Bennington with intent to inflict damage.

Commanding this powerful team of professional aviators and outstanding dedicated enlisted men is LCDR T. R. Randall, USN.

VS-38 Scrambles

Howard L. Ellis, AT1 from VS-38, has been selected for the Navy's Enlisted Scientific Education Program.

Ellis's selection was first mentioned in the March 18 issue of Navy Times. He hopes this program June 1st at Penn State.

Ellis is currently serving in VS-38 aboard BENNINGTON.

The reasons given by Ellis's superiors for his selection for the program were his abilities as an outstanding PO and one of their "best" aircrewmembers.

Exam Note

Men of VS-38 who passed the February service-wide exams and will be promoted to:

In the first increment...	
Dubrul, L. F.	AX2
Felton, C. E.	AMH3
Goll, R. I.	AX2
Lane, W. S.	AX2
McDermott, T. M.	ATN3
Proppes, E. B.	AX2
In the second increment...	
Brnard, R. E.	AX2
Daniel, R. L.	AX2
Gregg, J. A.	ADR3
Holt, J. E.	AE2