



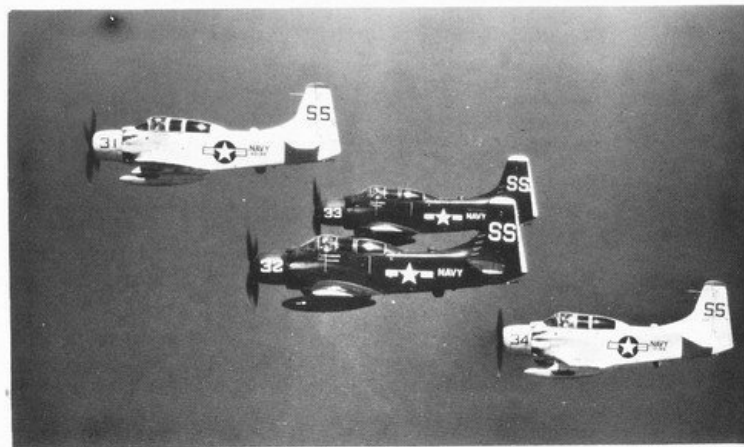
COMPOSITE SQUADRON THIRTY-THREE DETACHMENT THIRTY-NINE



Detachment 39 of Composite Squadron 33, came to the Ticonderoga from Atlantic City, New Jersey. This versatile detachment of 5 aircraft, 5 pilots and 38 enlisted men led by LCDR. "Andy" Andrews brought to the ship and the Air Group an all weather night attack capability. These "Night hawks," flying specially configured AD-5N Skyraiders, had the capability of accomplishing a multiplicity of varied missions. From anti-submarine "Hunter-Killer" missions to long range low-level "pathfinding" flights; from night attack strikes, with or without flare illumination, to all weather electronic counter measures missions, VC-33 could and did fly them all, night or day, fair weather or foul.

The detachment, with its AD-4Q utility plane, provided aerial towing services for the ships of the Sixth Fleet and "jet starting" services for jet aircraft that were diverted ashore to bases where no starting facilities were available.

The high proficiency of this small group to carry out its many varied missions and the high percentage of aircraft availability maintained throughout the cruise made Det.-39's contribution to the air group of inestimable value to the combat readiness and striking power of the Ticonderoga.





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