

NAVAL AVIATION NEWS

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COVERS—Hank Caruso's *Aerocature*[™] commemorates the 25th anniversary of the U.S. Naval Rotary Wing Aircraft Test Squadron. See page 32 for a detailed description. These pages: Ltjg. Brian Legan, left, and Ltjg. Matt Gensley of Fighter Squadron 143 walk away from their F-14 *Tomcat* after returning from a flight. Photo by Ted Carlson

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HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Ninety years ago, on 8 May, Naval Aviation was born when the Navy ordered two wood and fabric aircraft for “experimental work in the development of Aviation for Naval purposes.” Known as the A-1 and A-2, the planes were barely able to fly 60 mph, yet they preceded a long line of aircraft with ever-increasing complexity and performance. Since 1911 our aircraft have been flown and supported by highly motivated personnel willing to go in harm’s way to defend

American democracy.

We extend a rousing Happy Birthday to all members of our Naval Aviation team.

