

Executive Officer

Captain Thomas G. Otterbein November 1991 to April 1993

Captain Thomas G. Otterbein, a native of Bad Axe, Michigan, received his commission upon graduation from the U.S. Naval Academy in June of 1970. Following graduation, he reported to the U.S. Naval Postgraduate School in June 1971 to study for his Master of Science in Financial Management. Following flight training, he was designated a Naval Aviator in February 1973.

After an instructor tour with VT-21 at NAS Kingsville, Texas, he completed replacement pilot training in the F-4 Phantom and joined the "Sundowners" of VF-111 based at NAS Miramar, California in December 1975. With VF-111, he made a Mediterranean Sea cruise flying the F-4N during the last deployment of the USS F.D. ROOSEVELT (CV 42) and in July 1978, completed transition to the F-14A Tomcat. He deployed to the Western Pacific aboard USS KITTY HAWK for a deployment which included the initial response to the Iranian hostage crisis. In August 1980, he reported to VX-4 serving as Operations Officer and Operational Director until



August 1982.

After completing F-14A refresher training, he reported to the "Screaming Eagles" of VF-51 serving as Operations Officer during the "Around the World" maiden voyage of the USS CARL VINSON (CVN 70). In

December 1983, he reported as Executive Officer of the Navy Fighter Weapons School (Top Gun) at NAS Miramar, California. From November 1984 until July 1985, he served as the acting Commanding Officer of the school. Detaching in Janu-

ary 1986, he reported to VFA-195, at NAS LeMoore, California, for F/A-18A transition training prior to reporting to the VFA-161 "Rock Rivers" as Executive Officer. On 15 April 1988, he assumed command of the squadron and held that position until August 1989 when he was selected for the Nuclear Power Program. Completing the nuclear power training program in June 1991, he reported for duty on the staff of Commander, Naval Air Force, U.S. Atlantic Fleet in the Force Safety Office. In November 1991, Captain Otterbein reported to USS THEODORE ROOSEVELT (CVN 71) as Executive Officer.

Captain Otterbein has accumulated over 4,100 flight hours and over 750 carrier arrested landings. His decorations include the Meritorious Service Medal, Navy Achievement Medal and several unit decorations. Captain Otterbein is married to a fellow Michigander, Catherine Mary (Palczynski) Otterbein of Detroit.