CNATRA INSTRUCTION 3700.2

Subj: CNATRA SUPPORT OF THE NAVY LEGACY FLIGHT PROGRAM

Ref: (a) COMNAVAIRPAC/COMNAVAIRLANINST 3700.2 series
     (b) DOD Directive 5410.18
     (c) DOD Instruction 5410.19
     (d) SECNAVINST 5720.44 series
     (e) OPNAVINST 3710.7 series
     (f) CHINFO 252020Z Mar 02
     (g) FAA FAR PART 91
     (h) FAA Order 8900.1, Volume 3, Chapter 5 (a)

Encl: (1) CNATRA Legacy Flight Demonstration Narration

1. Purpose. To promulgate guidance and information concerning CNATRA participation in the Legacy Flight Program per reference (a).

2. Scope. This instruction applies to all CNATRA aircrew qualified to perform Legacy Flight demonstrations.

3. Background. References (b) and (c) provide the rationale to perform aerial demonstrations in support of Armed Forces sanctioned events. Reference (d) represents current Secretary of the Navy requirements and policies governing naval aerial support of assets. Reference (e) provides general guidance in the performance of demonstrations/air shows involving fleet Community Relations. Reference (f) represents the latest U.S. Navy Office of the Information (CHINFO) public affairs guidance in support of Navy aerial support. References (g) and (h) are Federal Aviation Administration policies prescribing rules governing the operation of aircraft within the United States specifically in conjunction with aerobatic flight.

4. Discussion. The Legacy Flight Program provides for the qualification and safe execution of a formation flight of dissimilar vintage Naval warbirds and Naval aircraft. The flyover, when conducted in a safe and professional manner, vividly demonstrates the rich history of Naval Aviation to the civilian community, other military services, and members of the Naval establishment both familiar and unfamiliar with our Naval Aviation heritage. Participation of operational Navy aircraft in such flyovers serves to salute historic naval aircraft and the people who flew and maintained them. Furthermore, Legacy Flight supports Commander, Navy Recruiting Command’s (CNRC) mission to provide motivated and qualified people for Naval service.
5. **Action**

   a. Training Air Wing (TRAWING) Commanders will ensure execution of the Legacy Flight Program by performing the following functions:

      (1) Nominate highly qualified formation pilots to conduct Legacy Formation Flyovers.

      (2) Coordinate airshow season schedule with CNATRA.

   b. Training Squadron Commanding Officers will nominate Legacy Flight aircrews to their respective TRAWINGs and ensure currency and qualification requirements are followed.

   c. CNATRA Legacy Flight pilots shall:

      (1) Comply with this instruction and reference (a).

      (2) Maintain a formation qualification in their aircraft.

      (3) Attend the pre-airshow season Legacy Flight Training Session.

6. **General Procedures.** To ensure a safe and successful flyover, CNATRA Legacy Flights shall follow the guidelines in reference (a) with the following restrictions:

   a. CNATRA aircrew shall not execute any rolling maneuvers during break up.

   b. Flights shall consist of one Training Aircraft and one Legacy Aircraft unless prior approval from CNATRA has been granted.

   c. The goal is to fly a good-looking formation, not a tight formation.

   

   Distribution:
   CNATRA Website
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CNATRA LEGACY FLIGHT DEMONSTRATION NARRATION

As America progresses through the 21st Century, it becomes increasingly important that we reflect on our nation's proud history, the people, events and technological advances which have made our country great. By remembering, appreciating and fully understanding the touchstones of our past, we will be able to more successfully chart the course for America's future.

With this thought in mind, Commander, Chief of Naval Air Training (CNATRA) authorized the development of the "CNATRA Legacy Flight" - a dynamic flight demonstration program designed to keep Naval Aviation's ties to its proud heritage alive and viable. Under this program, vintage training aircraft and warbirds from Naval Aviation's past are flown alongside the high-tech training aircraft of the present-day Navy. Through these unique formation flight demonstrations, we hope to provide inspiration for the men and women who currently serve, while attracting the best and brightest of our next generation of young Americans to join the future ranks of Naval Aviation.

During the World War II battles of Coral Sea and Midway, the full capabilities of Navy tactical air power began to be realized. Through the inspired efforts of a handful of Naval Aviators, flying from straight deck aircraft carriers, two of the most decisive sea battles of the war in the Pacific were won. Unique in the history of naval warfare, neither battle involved the participation of surface combatants. By the end of the war, the aircraft carrier had replaced the venerable battleship as the dominant weapons system of naval warfare.

Although it has been over 60 years since the conclusion of the Second World War, a number of the aircraft which flew from carrier decks during that conflict are still airworthy today, a testimony to both their durability and survivability. These vintage warbirds are now owned and operated by private individuals who, through their personal interest in maintaining and flying vintage aircraft, play an active role in keeping the history of Naval Aviation alive and actively on display.

During the course of the airshow season, different aircraft will alternately participate in Navy Legacy Flight flyovers at various airshows throughout the United States. The aviators who fly these vintage warbirds joined the Navy Legacy Flight Program on a strictly voluntary basis. Please take a moment and stop by and visit with them after the show, and thank them for sharing Naval Aviation history with us here today.

Now, Chief of Naval Air Training is proud to present the CNATRA Legacy Flight. Leading the two-plane flight is the ______________, which is flown by ______________ of ______________. [Add info about Additional warbirds as appropriate]. Flying wing on the formation is the (T-6 Texan II / T-45 Goshawk), the versatile advanced trainer of today's Navy. The CNATRA aircraft is flown by ______________ from VT-____, based at Naval Air Station ______________, [State].
On the first pass, the formation will parade past show center for the photo pass. Get your cameras ready as more than 65 years of Naval Aviation history passes show center.

The formation will now reposition for the second head-on pass, which will give an outstanding view of the “business end” of the preeminent fighters and trainers of their respective generations. Ladies and gentlemen, the Legacy head-on pass.

On the final pass, the Navy Legacy Flight will pass show center and perform an opposing "pitch out" maneuver for landing. After performing the "pitch out," our vintage warbird(s) will continue its/their downwind turn and reconfigure for landing. The (T-6 Texan II / T-45 Goshawk) which will initially "pitch out" in the opposite direction of its lead, will reverse while climbing in the vertical to achieve proper separation for a carrier break and landing.

We hope you have enjoyed today's Navy Legacy Flight demonstration, and have gained a better appreciation for, and understanding of, the rich heritage and ever continuing development of Naval aviation. For those of you in the crowd who represent America's leadership of tomorrow, we hope you have been inspired by what you have seen here this afternoon, and will consider joining the Naval Aviation team.

(If USN Recruiting Booth available):

LT/CPO/Petty Officer __________, representing Navy Recruiting Station________ located in _________ has a booth set up near the ____________, and would be happy to talk with you about the opportunities in today’s United States Navy. He/she will be joined by the Navy Legacy Flight Team members as soon as their aircraft are safely put to bed.