



Command
Commanding Officer

Captain James O. Ellis Jr.

USS Abraham Lincoln (CVN 72)

Captain James O. Ellis Jr., is a 1969 graduate of the United States Naval Academy. In May 1970, he was awarded a Master of Science Degree in Aerospace Engineering from the Georgia Institute of Technology in Atlanta, Georgia.

Captain Ellis began his flight training in June 1970, as well as further graduate work at the University of West Florida. In November 1971, he was designated a Naval Aviator and received a Master of Science Degree in Aeronautical Systems.

In June 1972, after enroute training in the F-4 Phantom II, Captain Ellis joined Fighter Squadron NINETY-TWO based at NAS Miramar, California. He made two deployments to the Western Pacific aboard USS CONSTELLATION (CV 64).

In January 1975, Captain Ellis began an eleven-month course of study at the United States Naval Test Pilot School, NAS Patuxent River, Maryland. He graduated in December 1975 and was assigned to the Carrier Suitability Branch of the Naval Air Test Center. For the next three years he conducted aircraft catapult and arrested landing structural tests, shipboard automatic carrier landing system certification and also served as project officer and test pilot on developmental aircraft programs. After enroute training in the F-14A Tomcat, Captain Ellis was assigned to the "Wolfpack" of Fighter Squadron ONE in June 1979. He deployed aboard USS RANGER (CV 61) and, in addition to department head duties, assisted in the development of carrier air group outer air battle tactics.

In August 1981, Captain Ellis transferred to the Navy's Office of Legislative Affairs in Washington, DC. He served as Budget and Aviation Program Liaison Officer between the Navy Secretariat and members and staff of the United States Senate and House of Representatives.

In October 1983, at NAS Lemoore, California, Captain Ellis became the first Commanding Officer of Strike Fighter Squadron ONE THREE ONE, flying the new F/A-18 Hornet. In January 1985, the squadron transferred to NAS Cecil Field, Florida, and deployed to the Mediterranean aboard USS CORAL SEA (CV 43) in the fall of that year.

Captain Ellis was next assigned to the Office of the Deputy Chief of Naval Operations for Air Warfare and served as F/A-18 Program Coordinator prior to commencing nuclear power training in April 1986. Captain Ellis served as Executive Officer, USS CARL VINSON (CVN 70), until he assumed command of USS LA SALLE (AGF 3), flagship of the Commander, Middle East Force, in June 1989 in Manama, Bahrain.

In April 1990, Captain Ellis reported to Joint Task Force FIVE as the Deputy Commander/Chief of Staff of the USCINCPAC counternarcotics task force.

Captain Ellis has been awarded the Legion of Merit, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal (two awards) and the Navy Commendation Medal. He is married to the former Paula Matthews of Marietta, Georgia. They currently reside in Alameda, California, with their daughter, Lauren, and son, Patrick, a Cadet at the United States Military Academy.

