

CAPT Carl R. Conti, II
Air Boss, USS THEODORE ROOSEVELT (CVN-71)

Captain Conti is a graduate of Purdue University and was commissioned in December 1985 through the Naval ROTC program. He has a B.S. in Nuclear Engineering from Purdue and an M.S. in Management from Central Michigan University.

He subsequently reported to Pensacola for flight school, earning his Wings as a Naval Flight Officer in June 1987 and selecting for training in the A-6 Intruder. After Fleet Replacement Squadron (FRS) training at Attack Squadron ONE TWO EIGHT (VA-128) at NAS Whidbey Island, WA, he was designated a Bombardier/Navigator (B/N).

In June 1988, he reported to the "Eagles" of Attack Squadron ONE ONE FIVE (VA-115) embarked in USS MIDWAY (CV-41), forward deployed to Atsugi, Japan. During this tour he served as the Public Affairs, Mine Warfare, and Nuclear Weapons Training Officer, deploying on two Western Pacific cruises and one combat cruise to the Persian Gulf for Operations DESERT SHIELD and DESERT STORM.

In April 1991, CAPT Conti reported as an Instructor at Attack Squadron FORTY TWO (VA-42), the East Coast A-6 FRS in Virginia Beach, VA, and served there as Airframes/Power Plants Branch Officer, Assistant Admin Officer, and Head of Intruder Navigation Training. In December 1993, he reported to Commander, Carrier Air Wing EIGHT (CVW-8) as Strike Operations Officer. As the Air Wing was the first to deploy without the A-6, he completed NATOPS qualification in the F-14A Tomcat and deployed in USS Theodore Roosevelt (CVN-71) in 1995. During that cruise, the CVW-8/TR Team initiated Operation DELIBERATE FORCE, the strikes that led to the Dayton Peace Accords in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

With the phase-out of the Intruder in 1997, CAPT Conti was selected for transition to the EA-6B Prowler and returned to NAS Whidbey Island. Upon completion of the FRS, he reported to the "Garudas" of Electronic Attack Squadron ONE THREE FOUR (VAQ-134), one of four Prowler squadrons assigned to support USAF Expeditionary Wings, in October, 1997. During this tour, he served as the Administrative Officer and Operations Officer, deploying twice to Incirlik AB, Turkey, for Operation NORTHERN WATCH and making an emergency deployment to Aviano AB, Italy, for combat operations over Kosovo during Operation ALLIED FORCE.

He next reported to the United States Strategic Command (USSTRATCOM), at Offutt AFB, NE, for a joint tour as the Chief of the Positive Control Branch, where he was responsible for safeguarding the use of the US arsenal of nuclear weapons. While there, he also served as the Chief of the Support Battle Staff. He left STRATCOM in 2003, reporting to the "Warbucks" of VT-4 in March, 2004.

In June 2004, he assumed the duties of Executive Officer and subsequently took command of the Warbucks in June 2005. During his tenure, the Warbucks transitioned from the T-34C Turbo Mentor to the Navy's newest aircraft, the T-6A Texan II and won the CNATRA Training Excellence Award.

CAPT Conti reported aboard USS THEODORE ROOSEVELT (CVN-71) in September 2006 as the AIR OFFICER. After an extensive yard period, he led the Air Department through the work-up cycle and the first-ever embarkation of a French Rafale squadron on a US carrier, culminating his tour with an Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF) cruise in 2008.

CAPT Conti reported to Network Warfare Command as the Director, Innovation and Experimentation (N9) in December, 2008

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CAPT Conti's personal awards include the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal (two awards), Air Medal w/ Combat "V" (three individual awards, eight strike/flight awards), French National Defence Medal, gold level, Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal w/ Combat "V" (four awards), Navy Achievement Medal, and various unit and campaign awards. He has logged over 4000 flight hours and 493 carrier arrested landings in the A-6E, F-14A, S-3B, F/A-18B/D/F, EA-6B, T-34C, T-6A, T-1A and T-39 aircraft.