

MILITARY ★★ ★ AVIATION ★★ ★ GLOSSARY



A Guide To Acronyms, Words, And Terms

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SMS
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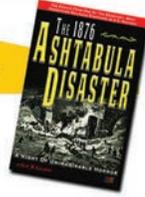
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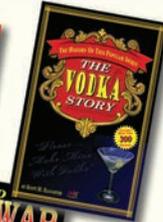
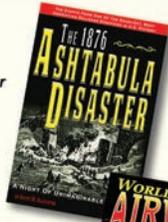
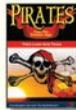
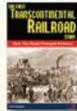
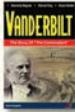
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HE MILITARY AVIATION WORLD is full of acronyms, techie words, jargons and more. This quick guide will help you understand many of these terms.

AAA

Acronym for *Anti-Aircraft Artillery* and pronounced “triple a.” Usually computers and radar are used to control rapid firing cannon or machine guns.

ACM

Acronym for *Air Combat Maneuvering*. Another term for dogfighting.

Admin

The rented room, usually at a foreign port of call, that serves as the party headquarters ashore.

Afterburner

A system that feeds raw fuel into a jet’s hot exhaust. It increases thrust but also fuel consumption.

AGL

Acronym for *Above Ground Level*. Although the altimeter reads height above Mean Sea Level (MSL), a more realistic altitude measurement over land is the height Above Ground Level. Most military aircraft have a “radar-altimeter” to determine height above ground level.

Air Boss

The person who rules the flight deck on board a carrier. He’s also called the Head of the Air Department.

Air Wing

The entire complement of aircraft on a carrier, especially in battle. A carrier’s air wing includes fighters, attack jets, early-warning planes, tankers and more.

Airdale, airedale

Refers to a member of the aviation community but especially a naval aviator (also called a “Brownshoe”). The term is often modified by non-aviation types with the adjective “f****g”.

Alert 5

A manned aircraft on five-minute alert (one that can launch within five minutes). Since this usually means the aircrew must be seated in the aircraft, the Navy has time restrictions as to how long a crew can stand an Alert-5 watch. There may also be aircraft/aircrews on alert 15, Alert 30, etc.

Aluminum cloud

A reference to the F-14 because of its large size.

Alpha Mike Foxtrot

Also called by its acronym of “AMF”. It’s a polite form of “Adios, My Friend” but refers to “Adios Mother F****r.”

Angels

This term has two meanings. The first refers to altitude when measured in thousands of feet. For example, “angels twenty” refers to 20,000 feet above sea level. It’s also what a downed pilot or crewmen calls a rescue helicopter.

Angled deck

The landing area of a modern carrier. This area is offset 10 degrees from the ship’s centerline to provide for safe bolters (see Bolters). It’s also called the *angle deck* or *the angle*.

Anti-Smash Light

The strobe or flashing anti-collision beacon on an aircraft.

Arresting Gear

Device used to stop an aircraft safely on a carrier.

ASW

Acronym for *Anti-submarine warfare*.

“Back to the Taxpayers”

This is where you send a wrecked or severely damaged aircraft.

Bag

This term has two meanings. As a noun it refers to the flight suit or anti-exposure suit. As a verb it means to collect items.

Bag season

Cold weather or water conditions that require the pilots to wear anti-exposure gear. This type of gear is unpopular because it’s very restrictive and uncomfortable.

Ball

An amber visual landing aid used by the pilot to adjust aircraft-relative position to a desired final approach glideslope. The primary optical landing device on the carrier.

Bandit

Any aircraft positively identified as hostile in a dogfight.

Barricade (or barrier)

A device resembling a large tennis net. It's rigged and used to stop an aircraft that cannot stop on its own.

Basement

Hangar deck of the aircraft carrier.

Bat decoder

A sheet of paper carried on all flight operations that is the key to current airborne communication codes.

Bat turn

Derives from the impressive 180-degree maneuver used by the Batmobile in the old "Batman" tv series and refers to a tight, high-G change of heading.

Beaded Up

A pilot who is worried or excited.

Behind the power curve

A pilot who is not meeting expectations.

Bent

Something that is damaged or broken.

Bingo

Minimum fuel for a safe return to base or vector to a tanker. As a verb, it refers to the act of returning to base or a tanker because of low fuel state. Although aircraft can fly and fight past bingo fuel in combat situations, it's very dangerous to do so.

Bingo field

Land-based runway where carrier aircraft can go if necessary when damaged, low on fuel, etc.

Bird farm

A nickname for the aircraft carrier.

Birds

The aircraft aboard the carrier.

Blackshoe

A member of the surface or submarine community. The term comes from the only approved footwear had to be, until recently, black for these communities.

Blower

A nickname for the afterburner(s).

Blue-Water ops

Carrier flight operations beyond the reach of land bases or bingo fields. At this point it's literally sink or swim for the pilot. If he cannot trap successfully, he and the aircrew must eject.

Boards out

Refers to having the speed brakes extended

Boarding rate

The percentage of carrier approaches that result in successful arrestments. The term applies to a pilot, a squadron or an airwing.

Boat

The traditional aviation term used to refer to an aircraft carrier, for example, the aircraft carrier is "THE Boat".

Bogey

Any unidentified aircraft. The aircraft may be friendly or hostile.

Bolt, Bolter

The "go-around" that occurs when the aircraft's tailhook misses the arresting wires but when the aircraft landing gear contacts the deck (otherwise it is a "low pass"). It's possible only on carriers with an angled deck. An aircraft missing the arresting wires before the angled deck resulted in a barricade engagement or a crash into the pack.

Boola-Boola

Radio call made when a pilot shoots down a drone.

Boresight

Technically, a method of aligning guns to a sighting system. However, pilots use the term to describe excessive concentration on one situation out of many situations.

BOREX

A boring exercise (a busy or tense one might be a SWEATEX).

Bought the Farm

Someone who has died. Although this term has many origins, one popular one derives from when the government reimbursed farmers for crops destroyed due to aviation accidents. The farmers would sometimes inflate the value of lost crops to the point that, in effect, the pilot involved “bought the farm.”

Bounce or Tap

This term has two meanings. One refers to carrier landing practice and the second is an unexpected air-to-air attack by a fighter, usually from behind.

Bravo Zulu

Phonetic pronunciation of “BZ” and signifies “Good Job” or “Well Done.”

Bubbas

Fellow squadron members or anyone who flies your same type of aircraft.

BuNo

It’s the permanent serial number assigned to an aircraft by the Navy.

Buster

Controller term to use maximum speed available without using afterburners (a speed called *full military power*).

CAG

Acronym for Carrier Air Group but it also refers specifically to the commander (the carrier’s chief pilot) of the Carrier Air Group.

Carqual or CQ

Term for carrier qualification. It’s a preset number of carrier takeoffs and landings required in training and at periodic intervals of all carrier flight crews.

Cat Shot

A takeoff assisted by a steam-powered catapult. A *cold cat* refers to a launch where insufficient pressure has been set into the catapult. This can send the aircraft into the water. A *hot cat* is when the catapult has too much pressure and can damage the nose wheel assembly or the launching bridle. These two problems are quite rare on today's carriers.

CAVU

Acronym for Ceiling And Visibility Unlimited. It's the best possible flying weather.

Centurion

An aviator who has made 100 shipboard landings on one carrier. The pilot is then issued a centurion patch and wears it on the flight jacket.

Charlie Sierra

Polite form of "Chicken s**t." It refers to something tacky or meaningless.

Charlie time

The assigned time for an aircraft to land on a carrier. "Signal Charlie" means 'come on down and land upon arrival.'

Check Six

Visual observation of the rear quadrant, from which most air-to-air attacks can be expected. Refers to the clock system of scanning the envelope around the aircraft; 12 o'clock is straight ahead, 6 o'clock is directly astern.

Cherubs

An altitude measured in hundreds of feet but below 1,000 feet. For example, "cherubs three" refers to 300 feet.

Cold nose

Also called “lights out” It refers to having the aircraft’s radar turned off.

COD

Acronym for Carrier On-Board Delivery aircraft. It’s used to transfer personnel and cargo to and from the carrier.

Colorful actions

Flathatting, showing off, or otherwise ignoring safe procedures while flying.

Conning

The act of making contrails with your aircraft.

Contract

Both minor and serious agreements and ground rules between two-man fighter crews or between wingmen.

Cranie

Protective headgear worn by flight deck crewmembers. It features hearing protection and impact protection. A cranie may be color-coded like the flight-deck jerseys.

Crossdeck pendant

The arresting wire (cable) on an aircraft carrier that the hook of a carrier aircraft catches to complete an arrested landing.

Dash Two

The second plane in a two-or-more aircraft formation.

Deck spotter

Derogatory term for a pilot who looks away from the ball to peek at the deck.

Delta

Refers to a holding pattern at the boat. This instruction tells the pilot, when arriving at the carrier, to stay clear and save gas.

Delta Sierra

A nice form of the term “dumb s**t.” It describes a stupid action and erases all previous Bravo Zulus and Sierra Hotels.

Departure

Literally departure from controlled flight. This is normally caused by excessive angle of attack combined with partial power loss in one engine. All aircraft depart differently, but some anxious moments and some loss of altitude will result before control can be regained. Some jets cannot be recovered from certain departures.

Dirty

Aircraft configured for landing with gear and flaps down.

Dot

Refers to how a distant aircraft looks on the horizon.

Double ugly

Fond nickname for the legendary but less than beautiful F-4 Phantom.

Double nuts

Aircraft with side number zero-zero (usually the CAG's bird).

Down

An aircraft or pilot that is not flying. For example, a sick pilot is “down”.

Downtown

Any enemy target area where heavy anti-aircraft opposition is expected.

ECM

Acronym for Electronic Countermeasures. It's a system for jamming or misleading enemy weapons, communications and radar.

Envelope

An aircraft's maximum performance parameters. Flying at the edge of the envelope is exciting but dangerous.

Evap

Also called the “still.” A distilling unit used to produce fresh water at sea.

FAG

Acronym for Fighter Attack Guy. It's a derogatory term for F/A-18 pilots.

Fangs Out

When a pilot is really hot for a dogfight.

Fangs Sunk in Floorboard

When a fighter pilot boresights on a kill but ends up getting shot himself.

Feet wet/dry

Feet wet refers to “over water” and feet dry to “over land.”

Flathatting

Unauthorized low-level flying and stunting. Although it can be thrilling, it's also sometimes fatal and usually is career- ending if caught.

Flare

The nose-up landing posture normal for most land-based aircraft. However, navy pilots eliminate flare and prefer a slamming contact with the deck.

Fly-by-wire

Electronic, computer-controlled operation of aircraft control surfaces. Replaces the mechanical/hydraulic controls common in earlier jets. Examples of fly-by-wire aircraft include the F-16 Falcon and F/A-18 Hornet.

FM

Acronym for "f*****g magic." It's used to describe how something high tech works but you're not quite sure how.

FOD

Acronym for Foreign Object Damage. It's always a concern on carrier decks. Any object , including people, can be sucked into a jet engine. Even the smallest item can seriously damage jet turbine blades. The term can also be used as a noun ("Look at the piece of FOD I picked up.")

FOD walkdown

Refers to an unpopular activity aboard a carrier where all personnel not actually on watch (such as gawkers, walkers, and talkers) line up and walk the flight deck from end to end. They pick up any object that might damage an engine or, if picked up by jet blast, an eye.

Foul Deck

A flight deck that is unsafe for landings. Situations causing a foul deck can be a crash, other aircraft, gear, personnel or the condition of the deck surface itself.

Foul Line

The painted lines on the flight deck showing an area that must be kept clear for flight operations to proceed safely.

Fox One, Two, Three

Radio calls indicating a Sparrow (Fox One), Sidewinder (Fox Two) or Phoenix air-to-air missile (Fox Three) was fired. Fox Four is sometimes used derisively to refer to a midair collision.

FTN

Acronym for “F**k The Navy.” It’s a term used by short-timers, attitude cases and sailors having a bad day.

Fur ball

A confused aerial engagement with many combatants. Several aircraft in tight ACM.

G. G-loading, G-rating

High-performance aircraft subject airframes and occupants to centrifugal forces far beyond simple gravity. One-G equals normal gravity; a pilot and plane pulling 4-Gs in a turn will feel forces equal to four times the weight of gravity.

G-suit

Also called speed slacks or speed jeans. G-suits are nylon trousers that wrap around the legs and abdomen. They automatically become filled with compressed air in high-G maneuvers to prevent the pooling of blood in the lower extremities, thus reducing the tendency to lose consciousness.

Gate

Also called “Zone five.” It refers to maximum afterburners.

Gear (the)

The arresting gear.

Glove

The huge wing root of the F- 14 Tomcat. The glove houses the mechanism for moving the variable- geometry wings.

Go Juice

Refers to jet fuel.

Goat Locker

Refers to the Chiefs' quarters and mess. The term originated during the time of wooden ships when Chiefs were in charge of the milk goats on board.

Goes Away

What something does when you hit it with a missile.

Gomer

Slang for a dogfight adversary (taken from the Gomer Pyle television show).

Goo

Bad weather that makes it impossible to see; in the clouds.

Golden rivet

The mythical last rivet usually found in the depths of the engineering spaces that completes a ship.

Grape

Member of the flight deck fuels crew so called because they wear purple jerseys.

Gripe

A mechanical problem on an aircraft. An “up” gripe means the aircraft can still fly but a “down” gripe means the aircraft cannot be flown.

G-suit

Gear worn by flight crews in tactical aircraft. It uses compressed air to squeeze the calves, thighs and stomach to reduce the effects of G's.

Hangar queen

An aircraft that suffers chronic “downs”; hangar queens are often pirated for spares for the squadron's other aircraft, so when the aircraft leave the carrier at the end of the cruise, the maintenance officer normally flies the hangar queen because he knows which parts have been taken (the “queen's” ejection seats are especially well preflighted).

Hard Deck

An established minimum altitude for training engagements. Early Top Gun hops honor a 10,000 foot AGL hard deck.

Hawk Circle

The orbiting stack of aircraft waiting to land on the carrier.

Head on a swivel

Also called “doing the Linda Blair” for the 360-degree head rotation in “The Exorcist” movie. It refers to watching out for an adversary.

Heater

Sidewinder missile which homes in on heat sources.

Heaving deck

Call from the LSO to a pilot on approach that wind and wave action is causing the deck to move vertically so much that it's a factor in the approach.

Helo

A Navy and Marine term for helicopter. Only the Army refers to a helicopter as a "chopper."

Hook Point

The part of the tailhook that actually engages the arresting wires. It must periodically be replaced because it becomes worn down by contact with the deck or by field arrestment.

Hoover

Nickname for the S-3 Viking because of the vacuum cleaner-like sound of its turbofan engines. It can also refer to any jet aircraft since they tend to suck objects and debris up off the flight deck.

Hop

Another name for mission or flight.

HOTAS

Acronym for Hands On Throttle And Stick. Today's fighters have several functions mounted on either the stick (right hand) or the throttle quadrant (left hand) so the pilot doesn't need to look around the cockpit.

HUD

Acronym for Heads Up Display. A transparent screen mounted on the dashboard on which important data from flight instruments and weapons systems are projected. The HUD eliminates the need to look down into the cockpit to read instruments.

Hummer

A nickname for the E-2 Hawkeye because of the sound of its turboprop engines. It can also refer to a plane, especially any propeller-driven aircraft, whose actual name can't be recalled. .

In-flight engagement

Also called in-flight arrestment. It occurs during an arrested landing if the hook engages while the main gear are not on deck. In other words, your aircraft snags the arresting wire before the wheels touch the deck. This can damage an aircraft.

In the spaghetti

The spot where you catch the wires.

Judy

Radio call signaling that your bandit is in sight and you can complete the intercept without further assistance.

Kick the tires and light the fires

This used to refer to overlooking the required routine of physically inspecting the aircraft before flight. Its current meaning is "let's get this aircraft preflighted and outta here pronto!"

Knife fight in a phone booth

Also called a "knife- fight." It refers to a close-in, slow-speed aerial dogfight with a nimble adversary.

Lethal cone, Cone of vulnerability

Area to the rear of the jet's tailpipe. This is the ideal spot to aim most infrared missile and gun attacks.

Lost the bubble

A pilot who has become confused or forgot what was happening.

Loading/Unloading

Increasing or decreasing angle of attack so reducing the G-forces

LSO

Acronym for Landing Signals Officer (also called *Paddles*). A specially qualified pilot who observes landing approaches. The LSO is also responsible for grading the landings of the pilots.

Make a play for the deck

A maneuver guaranteed to attract the anger of the LSO. It's where the pilot tries to salvage a bad approach by diving for the deck and the arresting wires. It can damage the aircraft and possible cause a crash on the flight deck.

Meatball

The luminous yellow glideslope indication lights that pilots watch when they're trapping.

Military power

Refers to maximum 'dry' power. In other words, maximum jet engine power without engaging afterburner.

Mini-boss

Refers to the Assistant Air Boss.

Mother or Mom

The ship from where you're launched or on which you are deployed.

Mud-mover, Ground-pounder

Nicknames for low-level attack aircraft such as the A-6 Intruder. The F/A-18 can also be called a mud-mover.

Music

Electronic Jamming designed to deceive radar.

My fun meter is pegged

A sarcastic comment for "I am not enjoying this."

NAS

Acronym for Naval Air Station.

NFWS

Acronym for the Navy Fighter Weapons School. It's a graduate school for fighter pilots (better known as "Top Gun").

Nice vapes

Comment on an exciting fly-by when high speed at low altitude or high G causes dramatic vapor trails.

No-Load

A term for an underachieving pilot.

Nonskid

An epoxy compound applied to deck surfaces to improve traction for feet and aircraft wheels. Since the nonskid is usually worn away by the end of a cruise, even taxiing (not to mention landing) can be even more of an adventure.

Oh Dark Thirty

Also called “Zero Dark Thirty.” It refers to a time very late at night or very early in the morning (technically a half-hour after midnight). It’s commonly used to describe any event scheduled to occur after midnight but before sunrise.

Opportunity to excel

A disagreeable job without the time or resources to properly complete.

Oversweep

When onboard, the F-14 can sweep its wings to seventy-two degrees aft making it easier to store.

Pack (the)

Aircraft ranged about the deck of an aircraft carrier, especially forward of the landing area.

Padlocked

To have a bogey firmly in your sights.

Painted

Scanned by radar.

Papa Hotel

Phonetic pronunciation of the signal ‘P-H’. It means “all hands return to ship”.

Passing gas

Refers to what an aerial tanker does during a mid-air refueling.

Pass

The point at which fighters, closing head-on, flash past each other. Also, an attempt at landing.

Peeping Tom

A nickname for a reconnaissance version of the Tomcat, specifically an F-14 equipped with the TARP's pod.

Penalty Box

This is where you go if you get a wave off or a bolter.

Pickle

A device held by the LSO that activates the "cut" light on the lens. It also means to drop a bomb or external fuel tank.

Pinging On

Paying close attention to an event or situation.

Pinkie

A landing occurring at first light (dawn) or last light (dusk). Although it generally counts as a night landing, it's also considered cheating. Pinkie is the preferred type of "night" landing by 0-4's and above.

Playmates

The pilots of other aircraft on the same mission as you.

Plumber

An inept or bad pilot.

Popeye

What you are when you're flying in the goo.

Pole

Control stick.

Prang

To bump, crunch, or break an aircraft.

Pucker factor

A measure of the stress level in a situation. In other words, how scary something is.

Puke

Someone who flies a different kind of aircraft than you, as in fighter puke or attack puke.

Punch out

To eject (also called "Do the Elvis").

Ramp (the)

The aftmost several feet of the flight deck. Slopes toward the water at about 45 degrees.

Ramp strike

Occurs when an aircraft on approach lands short and hits the ramp. The result can be a crash or other damage to the aircraft (such as losing the hook point).

Radome

Streamlined fiberglass enclosure covering a radar antenna.

Redout

A condition caused by excessive negative G's. The name is derived from the temporary loss or obstruction of vision caused by too much blood in the retinas.

Redshirt

Refers to the aviation ordnanceman. The term derives from their red jersey. Responsible for loading and downloading ordnance from aircraft, and other ordnance-handling duties such as assembling and attaching guidance packages.

RIO

Acronym for Radar Intercept Officer (also called GIB or Guy In Back). It specifically refers to the back-seat crewman in the F-14 Tomcat and F-4 Phantom. Also called a R2D2 (a reference to Luke Skywalker's robot backseater in the Star Wars movies).

Roof

The flight deck on the carrier.

SA

Acronym for Situational Awareness. Although an universal term it specially applies in aviation and refers to one's awareness of the surroundings, circumstances and tactical situation. Loss of situational awareness is often fatal in combat and is a contributing factor in many military-aviation mishaps.

SAM

Acronym for Surface-to-air missile.

Scooter

Nickname for the A-4 Skyhawk, used as a MiG simulator at Top Gun.

Section

Two aircraft operating together as a tactical unit.

Shooter

The catapult officer directing the firing of the catapult.

Side number

Numbers appearing on the nose of an aircraft to serialize it as to type and squadron.

Sierra Hotel

A term for SH or the polite form for "S**t Hot." It refers to high praise and is the pilot's favorite expression of approval. For example, "Man, that was a sierra hotel takeoff."

Smoking Hole

An airplane crash site.

Sniffer

A device used on the flight deck to make certain that an aircraft is broadcasting IFF transmissions.

Snuggle Up

During formation flight, to close up under the wing of another aircraft.

Sortie

A single mission by one aircraft.

Splash

Signifies an air-to-air kill, for example, “Maurader one-six, splash one.”

Spooled Up

A pilot who is very excited.

Spud locker

The part of a carrier well down on the fantail and definitely where you don't want to land. This is where a really low ramp strike occurs.

State

Refers to your fuel level. Mother requests, “Say your state.” This is answered with the number of hours and minutes of fuel onboard. For example, “State three plus three zero to splash” means 3 hours and 30 minutes of flying time remaining.

TACAN

Acronym for TACTical Aid to Navigation. It's a navigation aid that provides bearing and distance (slant range) between it and an airplane.

TACTS

Acronym for Tactical Aircrew Combat Training System. It's a system of computers and other electronics that allow real-time depiction of an aerial dogfight. TACTS is an integral element of Top Gun training.

Tank

Refers to a refuelling

Tango Uniform

Polite form of “tits up” which means it’s inoperative or broken (also called “sneakers up” and “belly up”).

Texaco

Refers to an aerial tanker.

Three down and locked

Landing gear down and ready for landing. A required conformation call before landing at Air Force bases. Pilots who fly fixed-gear aircraft are known to modify this call as “three down and welded”.

Three-Nine Line

Imaginary line across your airplane’s wingspan. A primary goal in ACM is to keep your adversary in front of your three-nine line.

Throttle Back

To slow down and take it easy.

Tiger

Refers to an aggressive pilot.

Trap

An arrested landing on a carrier. “Night traps” refer to night landings. .

Trick-or-Treat

If you don’t make this pass, you must tank or land ashore.

Varsity play for the deck

A skillful landing attempt.

Vulture's Row

The catwalks and galleries along the island of an aircraft carrier where personnel can watch flight operations.

Warm fuzzy

Feeling of confidence or security. When things feel right.

Wash Out

To not make the grade at flight school.

Waveoff

When the LSO orders a pilot not to trap.

Whiskey Charlie

Phonetics for "Who cares"

Whiskey Delta

Phonetics for "weak dick", a pilot who can't cut it. Such a scurrilous term that it's almost never used.

Wingman

Second pilot in a two-ship pair. He's responsible for ensuring that his leader's six o'clock remains clear.

Wire

The crossdeck pendant of the arresting gear aboard a carrier. The wires are numbered 1 to 4 (aft forward). Carriers from WWII and the Korean War could have 20 or more wires.

Workups

Putting a ship through certain tests and exercises before going on cruise.

Yankee Station

A position typically occupied by an aircraft carrier off the coast of Vietnam. 'Yankee' was the northern station, tasked with disruption of commerce and logistics.

Zoombag

Another term for Flight suit.

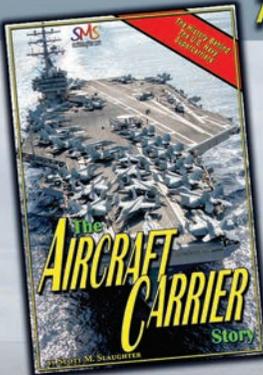
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The Aircraft Carrier Story

This new, enhanced edition of *The Aircraft Carrier Story* is about the evolution of the U.S. Navy aircraft carriers of the early 1920s, such as the the USS *Langley* (CV-1), a converted collier, to the impressive power and size of the nuclear-powered USS *Gerald R. Ford* (CVN-78) that will take the U.S. Navy deep into the 21st century.

The Aircraft Carrier Story is also about the men and women on the carrier and the jobs they perform to keep the U.S. Navy supercarriers operating effectively and efficiently.



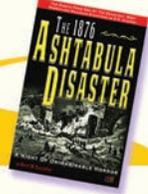
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My Story



I've been writing, or scribbling, since my childhood days, into high school, and then college. Although I took as many creative writing classes as possible, I always knew, however, it would take more than years of dedicated work to become the next "overnight sensation" in the literary world. In other words, I understood that creative writing by itself wasn't a career track that would help pay the bills. So I bounced around in a few post-college jobs until March 1985 when I started working for Abacus Software in Grand Rapids, Michigan. After a time working in sales and customer service, I rediscovered my passion of writing in the editorial department at Abacus where I worked hard editing and writing manuals, newsletters, blogs, magazine articles, brochures, and, of course, books.

Abacus Software was a very successful publisher of books ranging from computers (do you remember the Commodore 64?) to photography but perhaps gained its greatest success in publishing add-on software and books for Microsoft Flight Simulator and Microsoft Train Simulator. I edited or wrote many of these books and the manuals that accompanied the add-on software. In addition to editing/writing books, I also wrote articles and reviews for Flight Simulator World magazine.

I remained at Abacus until the evolving home computer market finally caught up with us and the business closed on December 31, 2012. It was a mixed blessing because even though I knew I'd miss the office environment, it gave me the opportunity to strike out on my own and begin my own "publishing empire." The first book I wrote after my hiatus was *The Vodka Story*. Since then, I've gone on to publish several other books, and many more in the pre-production stage, that you can discover on My Books page.

For Information On All My Books And More, Please Visit

www.scottslaughter.com