ASSIGNMENT #29
The ultimate US Navy carrier work-up proving ground at NAS Fallon and the incredible men and women of the USAF’s 144th FW, California ANG, operating F-15 Eagles, plus heading out into Death Valley for awesome low-level action.

28 November - 4 December
144th FW/CA ANG & Death Valley, CA & NAS Fallon, NV

COAP • +44 (0)7768 816029 • contact@centreofaviationphotography.com
Assignment #29: Fresno & Fallon

This Assignment takes in two fascinating military operations on the west coast of the US - the air superiority ops of the USAF Air National Guard and the elite US Navy units at NAS Fallon.

We will be shooting the missions of the California ANG at their home-base for the first of two days, as we begin to produce a unique record of their ops, with full access to the men, women and machines of the 1434th FW. ‘The Griffins’.

We will also head out into Death Valley to the low-level flying area for what we anticipate will be some spectacular flying.

The second part of the Assignment sees us travel to the US Navy super base of NAS Fallon, Nevada, to witness the fleet fighters being trained by the elite USN aggressors.

We then return to Fresno to embed into the CA ANG’s ‘Drill Weekend’ of flying action on the Saturday and a great social evening to follow.

This Assignment promises to be full of action from the word go, and we expect it to herald some fantastic end results for our host units.

Assignment #29 Goals

AG1: Experience and shoot the patriotic operations of the USAF’s 144th FW/CA ANG.

AG2: Learn of the Air National Guard mission and its unique operations.

AG3: Produce stunning end results for the unit.

AG4: Shoot in the low-level flying areas of Death Valley.

AG5: Experience the high tempo ops of one of the US Navy’s most important air stations as it trains the Fleet.

Rich Cooper, COAP
The Programme & Itinerary...

IMPORTANT MESSAGE
These are fully operational units and every aspect of this visit is subject to security, operational, technical or weather issues. As such, COAP, IAAT, the USAF and the USN are not responsible for cancellation at any stage or non-flying activity. Safety and Insurance is your own responsibility and risk.

PROVISIONAL ITINERARY

DAY 1: MONDAY, 28th NOVEMBER
Between 07:30 and 08:45 please check-in with Virgin Atlantic Airlines in Terminal 3 at London’s Heathrow Airport. Then meet Rich Cooper of COAP, and fellow photographers, who will be gathering in the immediate area. Latest check-in time advised by the airline is 2 hours prior to departure, i.e. 08:45.

London Heathrow, Terminal 3, Flight VS19, Departs 10:45 Arrives 13:50 at San Francisco

After Immigration Control we collect our luggage from Baggage Reclalm and proceed through Customs into the Arrivals Hall and transfer to Fresno. We stay the night on a room only basis in Fresno at the Best Western Plus Fresno Inn, located at the airport. On-site facilities include free wi-fi, swimming pool and hot tubs. Several restaurants within walking distance. Website: http://www.bestwesternfresnoinn.com/

Questions about the Operations of the Assignment? Call Rich direct on +44 (0)7768 816029 rich@centreofaviationphotography.com

Questions about the travel, logistics or booking? Call the IAAT team on 01932 255625

SMALL PRINT
- Operational caveats apply (see above).
- Hi viz vests and lanyards will be supplied by COAP and must be returned after the event.
- You must bring your passport with you on all days.
- There is no guarantee of action in the low-fly areas, but we will be in the best vantage points at the right time.
The Programme & Itinerary...

PROVISIONAL ITINERARY (continued)

DAY 2: TUESDAY, 29th NOVEMBER
Arriving at the 144th FW early in the morning, we spend the first of two days with the California Air National Guard to cover its proud F-15 Eagle operations in as much detail and action as possible.

We are spending two days with the unit in total, today and the “Drill Weekend” on the following Saturday. Expect to be shooting the crew getting kitted up, as well as the operational ramp, taxiway and runway operations, as well as their own requests of what they want us to cover over the period.

In the evening, we travel to Death Valley, staying in Lone Pine for two nights at the Best Western Plus Frontier Motel.

DAY 3: WEDNESDAY, 30th NOVEMBER
In what we anticipate will be a breath-taking experience, we head into Death Valley to shoot the US forces training in low-level flying over the high desert terrain. We then return to Lone Pine for the evening.

DAY 4: THURSDAY, 1st DECEMBER
A further morning in the low-level flying areas of Death Valley, before heading north for the drive to Fallon, Nevada.

We stay the night at the Holiday Inn Express Fallon on a room only basis. A stones throw away is the Stockman’s Casino with the Stockman’s Café and The Steakhouse restaurant. The hotel provides free Wi-Fi and indoor and outdoor swimming pools and fitness centre.

Images: Tim Laurence
DAY 5: FRIDAY, 2nd DECEMBER
Today is spent at the US Navy super base of NAS Fallon, shooting its elite resident units training up the US Navy Fleet (Carrier Air Wing residence is now confirmed, with the Strike Fighter Readiness Program, SFARP, in full swing). In the evening, we make the long drive through the desert back to Fresno, ahead of the ‘Drill Weekend’ of the California ANG!

DAY 6: SATURDAY, 3rd DECEMBER
A second day with the CA ANG ‘Griffins’, this time with all of the Guardsmen & Women present for the monthly ‘Drill Weekend’, with extensive flying expected. We will be covering all the action of the day’s flying and behind the scenes photography to portray the CA ANG mission. Expect a great social evening as well.

DAY 7: SUNDAY, 4th DECEMBER
A relaxing morning before our return to San Francisco. Latest check-in for our Virgin Atlantic flight back to London is 15:15.

San Francisco, Flight VS020, Departs 17:15

DAY 8: MONDAY, 5th DECEMBER
Heathrow Airport, Terminal 3, Arrives 11:30
Price & Booking Process

HOW TO BOOK...
This assignment is limited to 8 photographers so be very quick!

It is open for bookings from 15:00hrs BST on Thursday 15th September and not before.

• In order to book your place, please go to...
  http://wwwcentreofaviationphotography.com/operations/assignments/assignment-29

• Sign into your COAP account and click the green Book Now button to go to the dedicated IAAT booking site.
• Locate Assignment 29 ‘Fresno & Fallon’ and click Book Now.
• Complete the booking form and hit Submit. You will receive an acknowledgement from IAAT of your request and will be contacted in order to confirm the flights, price and collect full payment.

ASSIGNMENT PRICE

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<td>Land Only, please liaise with one of our consultants before booking</td>
<td>Based on sharing a twin bedded room, with private facilities, on a room-only basis</td>
<td>Single room supplement</td>
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PRICE INCLUDES:
• Flights on the scheduled services of Virgin Atlantic Airlines from London’s Heathrow Airport.
• UK and US airport taxes, and UK Passenger Service Charge (subject to change).
• 6 nights hotel accommodation in rooms with en-suite facilities.
• Transfers, logistics, booking and admin.