

Media Advisory
For Immediate Release



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Celebrate 90th Anniversary of Famous NC-4 Flight with Guides & Special Tours
First transatlantic flight commemorated May 1-31 at the National Naval Aviation Museum

Pensacola, Fla.—April 30, 2009—Travel back in history when the luxuries of flight attendants, beverage service and transcontinental hops didn't exist to a time where the physics of flight was just taking off the ground, a mere 15 years after the first aircraft lifted off the earth toward the sky. The National Naval Aviation Museum will celebrate the 90th anniversary of the first flight across the Atlantic by rewinding the time machine back to the year 1919, when the gutsy crew of the NC-4 (Navy-Curtiss) braved the uncharted skies over the world's second-largest body of water. Tour guides relive the fateful journey for visitors with special addition to Museum tours at the NC-4 flying boat exhibit May 1–31.

Three airplanes set out on the voyage to be the first aircraft to cross over the Atlantic Ocean. Only one plane, the NC-4 flying boat, successfully completed the aerial crossing from Rockaway Long Island, N.Y. on May 8, 1919 to Lisbon, Portugal on May 27, 1919 to Plymouth, England on May 30, 1919. The exhibit, housed in the South Wing of the Museum, displays the actual, fully restored NC-4 and features authentic audio and video recordings, newspaper articles, life-size photographs, biographies of crewmembers and personal mementoes from the crew, including medals and decorations received for the flight.

In honor of the historic turning point in aviation, Museum guests will receive a special flyer commemorating the 90th anniversary of the NC-4's flight, a replication of the original flyer from a war bond tour of 1920. Quantities limited.

Facts about the NC-4 and the first transatlantic flight:

- The NC-4 was designed as a long-range patrol aircraft capable of attacking the dreaded German U-Boats in WWI.
- The aircraft measures 24 feet high and 68 feet long with a top wingspan of 126 feet.
- The NC-4 reaches a top speed of 85 miles per hour and has a range of 17 hours.
- Original plans for the transatlantic flight called for four NC boats (NC-1, NC-2, NC-3 and NC-4) but only the NC-4 reached her destination.
- Total flight time, including stops, was 42 hours and 13 minutes.
- The historic transatlantic flight was commanded by A.C. Read, who later commanded NAS Pensacola. The NAS Pensacola golf course is also named after him.

Admission to the Museum is FREE. For a complete list of upcoming events at the Museum, visit www.navalaviationmuseum.org or call the Naval Aviation Museum Foundation at (850) 453-2389 or (800) 327-5002.

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Media Note: For more information about the National Naval Aviation Museum, contact Shelley Ragsdale, Naval Aviation Museum Foundation, Inc. at (850) 453-2389 or sragsdale@navalaviationmuseum.org.

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About the National Naval Aviation Museum

The National Naval Aviation Museum features nearly 300,000 square feet of displays and is one of the world's largest aviation museums. Located aboard Pensacola Naval Air Station, the facility boasts more than 150 beautifully restored aircraft representing Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard aviation and is Florida's most-visited museum. Among the countless things to touch, see and experience are thrilling Top Gun Air Combat flight simulators, a variety of special exhibits as well as the drama and power of amazing IMAX® films. The Cubi Bar Café offers a unique dining experience, and the Flight Deck Store is the perfect place to find a memento of the spirit of Naval aviation. Museum admission is free. The National Naval Aviation Museum is open daily from 9 a.m.–5 p.m., except Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day and New Year's Day. For more information, visit NavalAviationMuseum.org.

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