

Vertical Replenishment - Everything From Candy Bars to Captains

While on FleetEx RUSH benefited from the Navy supply ships being so near at hand and was able to maintain a constant store of fresh vegetables and dairy products; not to mention the free transportation of Captain Rich to the USS ENTERPRISE for a brief, a visit from a Navy Admiral and receipt of spare parts.

The first vertical replenishment exercise found RUSH's flight deck manned and ready to receive spare parts from the USS MARS. A small package was lowered to the flight deck and run to the bridge to be opened. While Mr. St. John worried about how RUSH was going to pay for the "illegally" procured parts, Captain Rich opened the box and found three Mars candy bars specially wrapped for our enjoyment! RUSH was gracious enough to return the gesture, though with packages of candy *lifesavers*!

Most memorable of all the vertical replenishments, though, was the boondoggle with the milk. Somehow or another comms with the Navy got crossed. Instead of ordering 180 gallons of milk, RUSH ordered 180 *cartons* of milk, each holding 6 gallons! On a sunny Saturday morning the USS MARS sent over 1152 gallons of milk by helo! There were milk cartons all over the flight deck, and poor Chief Hernandez was going crazy trying to figure out how to fit it all in the reefer. After some emergency comms; though, half the milk

