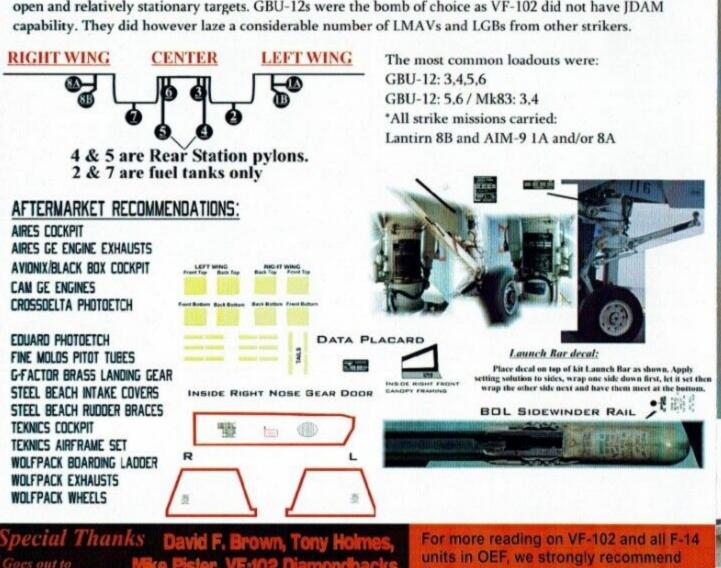


VF-102 and CVW-1 arrived on station 15 Oct 2001. That night VF-102 flew their first combat mission of Operation Enduring Freedom. Between OCT 01 and March 02, VF-102 would drop a staggering 450,000lbs of ordnance according to squadron records and more flight time (5000+hrs) that any other Tomcat unit in OEF. They participated in operations at 'Tora Bora', 'Tarin Kowt' (where DFCs were awarded) and Anaconda. VF-102 started their OEF campaign as the 'night' carrier taking over from VF-41/CVW-8 and would fly every type of mission then used-fixed strike, CAS (often with special operations forces), FAC-A, SCAR, TARPS, kill box patrol, straffing runs and more. The predominate loadout was as a 'quad' bomber usually carrying 4 GBU-12s. As less targets were being struck, VF-102 switched to 2 GBU-12 / 2 Mk83s in that recovering aboard the carrier with 4 GBU's was not possible. Mk83s were used as marker bombs, against troops in the open and relatively stationary targets. GBU-12s were the bomb of choice as VF-102 did not have JDAM capability. They did however laze a considerable number of LMAVs and LGBs from other strikers.



32009 FIGHTERTOWNDECALS@YAHOD.COM BRIAN PLESCIA 4685 ORION AVE #2 SHERMAN DAKS, CA 91403 NAVY WWW.FIGHTERTOWNDECALS.COM

ese great guy's!

Tony Holmes, "F-14 Tomcat units of OEF" published by Osprey.

