## **Book Review - USS Enterprise CVA(N)/CVN-65** The First Nuclear Powered Aircraft Carrier



## By Dr David McKay

www.willsonscott.biz/uss-enterprise/

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Time and again we have wondered why no one has really brought out a truly comprehensive book on the aircraft carrier USS Enterprise long ago. The theme really gives much so much that one could write a whole book series about it. And now there really is a tome here with us on the table.

Dr. Dave McKay from New Zealand was still in his early youth when he made contact with U.S. Navy vessels. His father, a marine engineer, took him often to the port of Auckland, where he discovered his passion for Maritime history. Over 18 years and during several trips to the United States in the 1990's Dr Dave McKay has collected a lot of information on the USS Enterprise which eventually resulted in the opportunity for him to visit on board the carrier a few times.

We had already pre-ordered the title before publication in New Zealand and were simply overwhelmed when the book arrived here. The nearly 700 colour photos and 700 pages speak for themselves. Although we have collected an archive of more than 12,000 images of the Big E, and really gathered a lot of information in our research to produce a Model of the USS Enterprise, reading this book gives a lot of new findings on structural conditions and history of this great ship. **We now have stock to sell in Europe thus saving expensive P&P.** 

The first part of Dr. McKay's book is about the design and construction of Big E. What considerations and necessities were important and of course how the construction itself took place. Function and structure of the vessel and the Crew and their duties are discussed. The "neural pathways" and sensors of the carrier, that make this vessel so versatile for varied commissions, the extensive refits, and of course the legendary air wings are all reviewed here.

Part Two is about the history and deployments of Big E from commissioning in November 1961 until decommissioning last year. All deployments are precisely documented including lots of pictorial material, and the appointed air wings are listed and pictured as well. Dr. McKay included not only a lot of photographs but also many insignia all his chapters.

This comprehensive work is surely worth its price. Purchase on the other hand seems to be not so easy as well known online book shops didn't have the title available when we printed this magazine. Thus we decided on short notice to get the title as a service for club members who pre-order this book. We can't say anything about the exact price yet, but we're pretty sure that we'll be able to announce it by mid December 2013. It will certainly be in the Euro 90's or even higher.

So – if you're interested please order by phone or email! <u>http://h-m-v.de/8.0.html?&L=1</u>



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