

13 OCTOBER 1972

CAS 5371

NAVY PATROL SQUADRON HONORS COLUMBUS.....Commander William T. Rapp, USN, of Irvington, N.J., commanding officer of Navy Patrol Squadron Ten, poses with the wreath which his P2V "Neptune" patrol bomber dropped in the channel from which Christopher Columbus! three ships sailed in 1492 to discover the New World. Three of the squadron's aircraft flew over the channel which is at Huelva, Spain, on the return leg of an operational flight over the Atlantic on Columbus Day, October 12th. The squadron is deployed at the U.S. Naval Station, Rota, which is some 60 miles south of Huelva. The inscription reads: "In honor of Christopher Columbus and the courageous Spanish seamen who on this day in 1492 changed the course of history." A U.S. Navy chaplain, standing in front of a 118-foot statue of Columbus at Huelva, blessed the wreath as it sank in the channel.

OFFICIAL U.S. NAVY PHOTO XAR/PIO/72a-59