

In the Catbird Seat



The Navy F-14 was not the first Tomcat to fly. Superstition spurred many aircrews to take a mascot with them as they headed overseas during World War II. Unfazed by the roar of the North American B-25 Mitchell's engines—or the Army regulation strictly prohibiting animal mascots on military aircraft—this cat was caught napping

by pilot Ole C. Griffith on a 90th Photo Mapping Squadron flight over Peru in 1944.

Photo courtesy Jeffrey Ethell via Ole C. Griffith