



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

USS TICONDEROGA (CG-47) ✓
FLEET POST OFFICE
NEW YORK, NEW YORK 09588-1158

IN REPLY REFER TO:

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19 SEP 1988

From: Commanding Officer, USS TICONDEROGA (CG 47)
To: Director of Naval History (OP-09BH), Washington Naval Yard
Washington, D.C. 203374-0571

Subj: REQUEST FOR ANNUAL COMMAND HISTORY

Ref: (a) Your letter of 5 Aug 88

Encl: (1) TICONDEROGA Command History for 1987

1. As requested in reference (a), enclosure (1) is forwarded.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "F. S. BERTSCH", with a large circular flourish above the name.

F. S. BERTSCH
By direction

Copy to:
COMNAVSURFLANT

COMMAND HISTORY
USS TICONDEROGA (CG 47)
1 JANUARY - 31 DECEMBER 1987

1. Command Composition and Organization

USS TICONDEROGA is the lead ship of her class of guided missile cruisers, the first surface combatants equipped with the Aegis Weapons System. Designed for Anti-Air Warfare, her other primary missions of Anti-Surface Warfare, Anti-Submarine Warfare, and Command and Control combine to give her a tremendous multi-warfare capability, strengthening a Battle Group's effectiveness, defense, and survivability. Homeported in Norfolk, Virginia, as a member of Crusier-Destroyer Group EIGHT, she is commanded by CAPT James M. Arrison III, USN.

2. Chronology

1-4 JAN	INPT NORFOLK
5 JAN - 3 MAR	INPT NORFOLK NAVAL SHIPYARD - BALLASTING
3 MAR	POST-SRA DAY CRUISE
7 MAR	CHANGE OF COMMAND - CAPT R. M. WALSH RELIEVED BY CAPT J. M. ARRISON III
8 MAR - 3 MAY	INPT NORFOLK - SONAR PRESERVATION SYSTEM OVERHAUL AND BALLASTING RAV
4-8 MAY	INSURV UNDERWAY FOR LOCAL OPERATIONS PORT VISIT - FT LAUDERDALE CNO CRUISE TO NORFOLK
29 MAY - 08 JUN	INPT NORFOLK
8-10 JUN	WHISKEY ANCHORAGE FOR ENGINEERING DRILLS
10 JUN - 2 JUL	INPT NORFOLK
22-26 JUN	CORTRAMID SUPPORT
2 JUL - 5 JUL	OPPE
6-7 JUL	INPT NORFOLK
30-31 JUL	WHISKEY ANCHORAGE FOR WEAPONS ONLOAD
1-10 AUG	IMAV - SHAFT SEAL REPAIRS
11 AUG - 10 SEP	INPT NORFOLK - STAND DOWN, LEAVE, AND UPKEEP
10 SEP	DEPLOYED - BBBG 1-87
11-19 SEP	ATLANTIC OCEAN TRANSIT
20 SEP	JOINED SIXTH FLEET
21 SEP	TRAINING ANCHORAGE, CAPO TEULADA, SARDINIA
22 SEP	ENR NAPLES
23-26 SEP	PORT VISIT NAPLES, IT
27 SEP - 30 SEP	OPERATIONS - MEDITERRANEAN
1 OCT - 6 OCT	NATO EXERCISE DISPLAY DETERMINATION
8-11 OCT	PORT VISIT ISTANBUL, TURKEY
12-19 OCT	OPERATIONS - MEDITERRANEAN
14-16 OCT	EXERCISE - NATIONAL WEEK 88A
20 OCT	TRAINING ANCHORAGE AUGUSTA BAY, SICILY
22 OCT - 7 NOV	OPERATIONS - NORTH ATLANTIC
29 OCT	CROSSED ARCTIC CIRCLE
30 OCT - 1 NOV	PORT VISIT - BERGEN, NORWAY
8 NOV	INCHOP SIXTH FLEET
10 NOV - 19 NOV	INPT MARSEILLE, FRANCE - RAV, GTMTT, CMS ASSIST
20 NOV	ENR SUEZ CANAL

23 NOV	MISSILEX - NAMFI RANGE, CRETE
25 NOV	TRANSITED SUEZ CANAL, ENR DIEGO GARCIA
2 DEC	CROSSED EQUATOR - SHELLBACK CEREMONY
4-7 DEC	INPT DIEGO GARCIA - TURNOVER W/USS LONG BEACH
7 DEC	DEPART DIEGO GARCIA ENR NORTH ARABIAN SEA
	AS A MEMBER OF JOINT TASK FORCE MIDDLE EAST
15 DEC	ASSUMED DUTIES AS AAWC FOR COMMANDER, BATTLE
	GROUP ALFA IN THE NORTH ARABIAN SEA
21 DEC	EARNEST WILL 87022
31 DEC	DALLAS COWBOY CHEERLEADER VISIT

3. Narrative

TICONDEROGA began 1987 with a two month visit to Norfolk Naval Shipyard to make a few modifications and improve the overall condition of the ship. Aluminum blast doors topside were replaced and the SPS-64 navigational radar was installed to compliment the ship's surface tracking ability.

In early March, the ship left the yards, held a one day shakedown cruise in the Virginia Capes Operating Area, and then pulled into Norfolk Naval Base to begin preparations for the ship's Change of Command.

On 7 March 1987, CAPT James Matthew Arrison III relieved CAPT Raymond M. Walsh as the ship's Commanding Officer in a formal ceremony on the ship's flight deck. The crew, along with family, friends and many fellow officers said farewell to CAPT Walsh and welcomed their new skipper, TICONDEROGA's third since her commissioning, aboard.

After the ceremony, the ship again underwent large scale modifications. The sonar pressurization system was completely overhauled and 130 tons of lead were added to the ship's keel to improve her stability.

In early May, the ship passed her INSURV inspection and went to sea for the first time under the new captain. After reacquainting the crew with life at sea through operations and drills off the coast of Virginia, TICONDEROGA carried several Pentagon officials on a short cruise to FT Lauderdale, Florida. The crew spent an exciting Memorial Day weekend in the south-eastern hot spot and supported the city's observation of the holiday by firing a twenty-one gun salute to honor those servicemen who had fallen in service to their country. The return to Norfolk was marked by the presence of a very special guest. The Secretary of Navy, the Honorable Mr. James Webb, came aboard for the voyage.

June was a busy month as well with the ship taking part in many Cruiser-Destroyer Group EIGHT inport exercises. Also, preparations for the ship's propulsion plant examination were in full swing with the engineers working long hours to improve

readiness in both equipment and personnel. In mid-June, the ship got underway for a Vandalex off the Virginia coast, logging successful missile intercepts of drones simulating the Soviet AS-4 "Kitchen" missile. She rounded out the month back in Norfolk providing support for midshipman training during CORTRAMID 88.

The first week of July was spent in Norfolk and in the Virginia Capes Operation Area as the ship underwent its propulsion examination. Then it was off to the Gulf of Mexico for FLEETEX 3-87, a rigorous exercise to determine if a battleship battle group, including an Aegis Cruiser, could successfully protect the southern coast of the United States from likely threats during a full blown confrontation. The two week exercise was a complete success, with the battlegroup surviving surface, subsurface, and air attacks, maintaining control of the sea and also providing gun fire support for ground troops in the region. Upon conclusion of the exercise, TICONDEROGA, accompanied by the HAYLER, sailed to Puerto Rico to conduct Naval Gunfire Support Exercises off the island of Vieques. In her NGFS Selex, TICONDEROGA was practically flawless, and received an overall grade of 98% for the exercise.

TICONDEROGA returned to Norfolk in late July and began an upkeep program on the ship and a stand down period for the men. Weapons were onloaded, a brief IMAV affected repairs on the ship's shaft seals, and the men took time to personally prepare for the upcoming deployment.

On 10 September, the ship left Norfolk with the Battleship IOWA for a six month deployment to the Mediterranean. Inchooping to Sixth Fleet on the 20th, TICONDEROGA spent a few days in a training anchorage off Sardinia before pulling into Naples for a port visit. The ship then participated in the NATO Exercise Display Determination involving ships, submarines, and aircraft from France, Spain, Turkey and Italy.

At the close of Display Determination, the ship held a very successful port visit in Istanbul, Turkey before getting underway for Mediterranean operations. Exercise National Week 88A was completed on the 16th of October and from there the ship's schedule was changed drastically. Enroute to Marseille for a port visit and RAV, the ship was redirected to the North Atlantic. TICONDEROGA, IOWA, and the DEYO were sent to support NATO units in the North Atlantic. The ship participated in exercises above and below the Arctic Circle for two weeks before pulling into Bergen, Norway for the Halloween weekend. Her northern mission completed, TICONDEROGA returned to Sixth Fleet and pulled into Marseille for a much needed RAV.

On the 20th of November, the ship left Marseille for duty as Battlegroup Alfa AAWC in the North Arabian Sea. In company with IOWA, TICONDEROGA passed through the Suez Canal on the 25th of November, but not before she had successfully destroyed a drone

in a missile exercise on the Namfi range in Crete. She then proceeded south, across the equator, to Diego Garcia for a turnover with the LONG BEACH, and arrived on station in the Gulf of Oman on 4 December.

The rest of 1987 was spent on station, providing air coverage and control for Earnest Will convoy operations through the Strait of Hormuz. IOWA and TICONDEROGA, working together, maintained air and sea supremacy in the region.

4. Supporting Documents:

- a. Biography and photograph of Commanding Officer.
- b. Photograph of ship.
- c. Welcome Aboard pamphlet.