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DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
USS TICONDEROGA (CG-47)
FPO AE 09588 - 1158

IN REPLY REFER TO:

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From: Commanding Officer, USS TICONDEROGA (CG-47)
To: Director of Naval History (OP-09BH), Washington Naval
Yard, Washington DC 20374-0571

Subj: COMMAND HISTORY

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12D

Encl: (1) USS TICONDEROGA (CG-47) Command History for 1992

1. In accordance with reference (a), enclosure (1) is submitted
for historical record.


E.F. MESSINA

Copy to:
COMNAVSURFLANT
COMCARGRU EIGHT
COMDESRON TWO

COMMAND HISTORY

1. COMMAND COMPOSITION AND ORGANIZATION

USS TICONDEROGA (CG 47) is the lead ship of her class of guided missile cruisers, the first surface combatant equipped with the AEGIS weapons system. Designed as a multi-warfare capability platform. USS TICONDEROGA has excelled in all aspects of Anti-Air Warfare, Anti-Surface Warfare, Command and Control, and Anti-Submarine Warfare. Homeported in Norfolk, Virginia, as a unit of Carrier Group EIGHT, she is commanded by Captain Edward F. Messina.

2. CHRONOLOGY

01 JAN	Holiday upkeep - Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates
02 JAN	Underway Arabian Gulf
03 JAN	Strait of Hormuz transit
04 JAN - 11 JAN	Underway RED REEF III, Gulf of Oman
12 JAN	MISSILEX
13 JAN - 17 JAN	Gas Turbine Mobile Training Team, Gulf of Oman
18 JAN	Strait of Hormuz transit
19 JAN - 20 JAN	3M Assist visit, Arabian Gulf
21 JAN - 30 JAN	Tender Availability, Jebel Ali, United Arab Emirates
31 JAN - 03 FEB	Underway Arabian Gulf
04 FEB	Strait of Hormuz transit
05 FEB - 14 FEB	Underway North Arabian Sea
15 FEB	Bab-Al-Mandab Straits transit
16 FEB - 25 FEB	Underway Red Sea transit
26 FEB	Suez Canal transit
27 FEB - 29 FEB	Mediterranean Sea transit
01 MAR - 05 MAR	Port Visit - Villefranche Sur Mer, France
05 MAR - 06 MAR	Transit Mediterranean Sea
07 MAR	Transit Strait of Gibraltar
09 MAR	Irish Sea transit
10 MAR	Refueling stop - Loch Striven, Scotland
10 MAR - 21 MAR	Underway TEAMWORK 92, North Atlantic Ocean
22 MAR - 29 MAR	Transit Atlantic Ocean
29 MAR - 01 APR	Operational Propulsion Plant Examination
02 APR - 04 MAY	Post Deployment leave period, inport Norfolk, Virginia
06 APR - 27 APR	IMAV - SIMA, Inport Norfolk, Virginia
20 APR - 30 APR	Limited Combat Systems Readiness Review, Inport Norfolk, Virginia
04 MAY - 06 MAY	Naval Gunfire Support Mobile Team Trainer, Inport Norfolk, Virginia
07 MAY - 09 MAY	CSOSS Phase II
08 MAY - 10 MAY	Underway enroute Caribbean Sea
11 MAY	Inport Roosevelt Roads, Puerto Rico
12 MAY	MISSILEX with USS YORKTOWN (CG 48)

Enclosure (1)

12 MAY - 13 MAY	Underway Caribbean Sea
13 MAY	RTT/SVTT Firing
13 MAY - 14 MAY	Port Visit - Fredricksted, Saint Croix, Virgin Islands
15 MAY	Inport Roosevelt Roads, Puerto Rico
15 MAY	Shifted Operational Control to CTG 4.1
15 MAY	COMPHIBGRU 2 and COMCARIBRON embarked
15 MAY - 31 MAY	Counter Narcotics Operations, Caribbean Sea
01 JUN	Inport Roosevelt Roads, Puerto Rico
02 JUN - 03 JUN	Underway, NGFS SPOTEX, Vieques
04 JUN - 09 JUN	Port Visit - Fort de France, Martinique
10 JUN	Underway Abbreviated NGFS qualification, Vieques
11 JUN - 12 JUN	Underway Search and Rescue, Caribbean Sea
13 JUN - 16 JUN	Port Visit - Port Everglades, Florida
17 JUN - 18 JUN	Enroute Norfolk, Virginia
18 JUN - 28 JUN	Inport Norfolk, Virginia
29 JUN - 02 JUL	CORTRAMID - VACAPES OPAREA
03 JUL - 05 JUL	Inport Norfolk, Virginia
06 JUL - 07 JUL	CORTRAMID - VACAPES OPAREA
08 JUL - 09 JUL	Inport Norfolk, Virginia
10 JUL - 11 JUL	Enroute Newport, Rhode Island
12 JUL - 15 JUL	Engineering School Ship - Newport, Rhode Island
15 JUL	Enroute Earle, New Jersey
16 JUL - 19 JUL	Ammunition Offload - Earle, New Jersey
20 JUL - 21 JUL	Enroute Halifax, Nova Scotia
22 JUL - 26 JUL	Port Visit - Halifax, Nova Scotia
27 JUL - 28 JUL	Enroute Norfolk, Virginia
29 JUL - 30 SEP	IMAV - SIMA - Inport Norfolk, Virginia
09 AUG - 19 AUG	COMDESRON 32 Flagship
30 SEP	Commenced Regular Overhaul - Metro Machine Corporation, Norfolk, Virginia
12 OCT - 31 DEC	Drydocked in Old Dominion Drydock at Metro Machine Corporation
19 OCT	Memorial Service for Ensign David Eison - Arlington National Cemetery
15 DEC - 31 DEC	Holiday Leave and upkeep

3. NARRATIVE

TICONDEROGA began the new year in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates enjoying the holiday upkeep period. On January 2, TICONDEROGA got underway in preparation for a Strait of Hormuz transit and exercise RED REEF III.

USS TICONDEROGA, as a member of Battle Force Zulu, was assigned duties as Arabian Gulf Force Track Coordinator (ZF) from October 30, 1991 through February 4, 1992 during Operation Desert Storm. TICONDEROGA maintained Link operations with USAF and Multi-National Forces (MNF) throughout the deployment.

From January 4 through January 12, TICONDEROGA participated in RED REEF III Missilex/Linkex (USN/RSNF) 92 including a Gulf of Oman Missilex. On January 10, TICONDEROGA embarked Rear Admiral John Scott Redd, Commander Task Force One Five Four . Rear Admiral Redd remained on TICONDEROGA to observe surface to surface and surface to air missile engagements. TICONDEROGA coordinated surveillance of surface missile hazard patterns and surface surveillance assets to sanitize RED REEF III exercise areas prior to missile launch phase. In addition, TICONDEROGA provided missile tracking data over Link-11 to USN and RSNF ships, underground command center, Jubail and Riyadh, Saudi Arabia for multiple OTTOMAT and Harpoon surface to surface missile firings which destroyed two target hulks. TICONDEROGA conducted two standard missile firings resulting in two direct hits.

TICONDEROGA conducted a successful engineering training period from 13-17 January 92 in the Gulf of Oman. Assisted by the Gas Turbine Mobile Training Team and COMCRUDESGRU 12 Assistant Material Officer, TICONDEROGA conducted an intensive and productive period of engineering casualty control training and material inspections.

Upon completion of this MTT visit, TICONDEROGA returned to the Arabian Gulf where she conducted a 3-M Assist Visit on January 19 and 20. On January 21, TICONDEROGA entered port in Jebel Ali, United Arab Emirates for a tender availability period with USS YOSEMITE (AD 19).

On January 31, TICONDEROGA was underway in the Arabian Gulf in preparation for a February 4 transit of the Strait of Hormuz. From 5-14 February, TICONDEROGA transited the North Arabian Sea. On February 15, a Bab-Al-Mandab strait transit was conducted. TICONDEROGA transited the Red sea from 16-25 February. On February 26, TICONDEROGA and the Eisenhower battle group transited the Suez canal. TICONDEROGA transited the Mediterranean Sea from February 27 through February 29 enroute Villefranche Sur Mer, France. This port visit proved to be the most enjoyable of the cruise. It also marked TICONDEROGA's first return after being formally adopted by Villefranche Sur Mer on July 15, 1990. The people of Villefranche Sur Mer were hospitable and supportive of TICONDEROGA crewmembers. Upon completion of the port visit, TICONDEROGA transited the Western Mediterranean Sea. On March 7, TICONDEROGA transited the Strait of Gibraltar.

Upon entering the Atlantic Ocean, TICONDEROGA began a northern transit in heavy weather toward exercise TEAMWORK 92. To avoid extreme weather, TICONDEROGA conducted a North Channel transit to acquire safe haven in the Irish Sea. TICONDEROGA refueled at the NATO refueling station located in Loch Striven, Scotland. Upon departure, TICONDEROGA entered the Atlantic Ocean to continue the transit to the Vestfjord and TEAMWORK 92.

Arriving on station on March 12, TICONDEROGA assumed duties as Anti-Air Warfare Commander. The multi-warfare capabilities of TICONDEROGA were tested extensively during TEAMWORK 92. Constantly challenged by opposing forces utilizing air raids, fast patrol boat attacks, and submarine attacks, TICONDEROGA proved capable of repelling all enemy attacks maintaining air and sea superiority.

On March 22, TICONDEROGA began her transit across the Atlantic Ocean in preparation for a short-notice Operational Propulsion Plant Examination from March 29 through April 1. TICONDEROGA was awarded an overall grade of satisfactory and was cited as "significantly improved" with a grade of excellent in level of knowledge and good in firefighting and administration.

TICONDEROGA arrived at Naval Station Norfolk, Virginia on April 2 and began a long-awaited homecoming leave period. From May 4 through May 6, TICONDEROGA hosted the Naval Gunfire Support Mobile Team Trainer onboard in order to prepare the Naval Gunfire Support Team for the upcoming Naval Gunfire Support Qualification.

On May 8, TICONDEROGA got underway enroute Roosevelt Roads, Puerto Rico. TICONDEROGA arrived in Roosevelt Roads, Puerto Rico on May 11 for a brief overnight fuel stop. On May 12, a missile exercise was conducted with USS YORKTOWN (CG 48). RTT/SVTT firings were conducted on May 13. Upon completion of these exercises, TICONDEROGA enjoyed a brief stop in Fredricksted, Saint Croix, where she remained through May 14.

TICONDEROGA arrived in Roosevelt Roads, Puerto Rico on May 15 and embarked COMPHIBGRU TWO and COMCARIBRON for Law Enforcement Operations. From May 15 through May 31, TICONDEROGA acted as CTG 4.1 flagship during Law Enforcement Operations. TICONDEROGA provided air and surface track data management, as well as, data collection and management. TICONDEROGA's long range detection and tracking capabilities proved invaluable in the interception of suspect vessels and aircraft.

On June 1, TICONDEROGA returned to Roosevelt Roads, Puerto Rico and disembarked COMPHIBGRU TWO and COMCARIBRON. TICONDEROGA provided NGFS spotting services on the Vieques range 2 to 3 June. Upon completion of spotter services, the crew enjoyed a five day port visit in Fort de France, Martinique. On June 10, TICONDEROGA returned to Vieques to conduct an abbreviated Naval Gunfire Support Qualification. The NGFS team performed superlatively achieving a grade of 98, and completing the exercise with the minimum number of rounds possible.

On June 11, while transiting the Caribbean Sea enroute Port Everglades, Florida, a TICONDEROGA crewman was discovered missing.

An extensive search and rescue operation was commenced involving TICONDEROGA, USS CLIFTON SPRAGUE (FFG 16), Coast Guard District Seven, S-3's from the USS THEODORE ROOSEVELT (CVN 71), and various shore based airborne assets. The search was terminated at 2030 on June 12 declaring Ensign David Eison lost at sea.

TICONDEROGA arrived in Port Everglades, Florida on June 13 and with the assistance of the Navy League, enjoyed a four day port visit. TICONDEROGA crewman took advantage of the recreational opportunities of south Florida. TICONDEROGA departed Port Everglades on June 17 enroute Norfolk, Virginia. Upon departure on the morning of 17 June, a memorial service was conducted for Ensign David Eison. Arriving at Naval Station Norfolk, Virginia in the early evening of June 18, TICONDEROGA remained inport until June 28.

From June 29 through July 7, TICONDEROGA began participated in CORTRAMID 92. Hosting more than 75 Midshipmen, ship's company implemented a vigorous schedule which included everything from Damage Control familiarization to gunfire exercises. In addition, midshipmen were provided with Deck and CIC watchstation training, and a comprehensive tour of the ship. TICONDEROGA remained inport Norfolk, Virginia from 8 to 9 June.

TICONDEROGA departed Naval Station Norfolk, Virginia on June 10 enroute Newport, Rhode Island. Arriving in Newport, Rhode Island on June 12, TICONDEROGA served as Engineering school ship until June 15. Departing Newport, Rhode Island on June 15, TICONDEROGA arrived in Earle, New Jersey on July 16 for ammunition offload in preparation for its first Regular Overhaul. TICONDEROGA completed the offload on July 17, and enjoyed two days of liberty in Earle, New Jersey and nearby New York City. TICONDEROGA departed Earle, New Jersey on July 20 and began a northerly transit to Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada. Arriving on July 22, TICONDEROGA crewman enjoyed Halifax, Nova Scotia until July 27, when she departed Halifax enroute Norfolk, Virginia.

Upon returning home to Naval Station Norfolk, Virginia on July 29, TICONDEROGA began an intermediate maintenance availability with Shore Intermediate Maintenance Activity Norfolk. From August 9 through August 19, TICONDEROGA acted as COMDESRON 32 flagship. TICONDEROGA transited the Elizabeth River on September 30 and arrived at Metro Machine Corporation Norfolk, Virginia. This event was historic in that it marked the beginning of the first Regular Overhaul of an Aegis Cruiser. On October 12, TICONDEROGA entered Old Dominion Dry dock where she remained through the end of 1992.

On October 19, TICONDEROGA's Commanding Officer, Executive Officer, Lieutenant Preble, Lieutenant (junior grade) Fleming, Ensign Okon, Ensign Kirkland, and Ensign Haynie traveled to Arlington National Cemetery to participate in a memorial service for Ensign David Eison.

The Commanding Officer presented the American flag to Ensign Eison's mother. The Executive Officer and the remainder of the party acted as honorary side bouys.

To promote morale and the Christmas spirit, a Christmas party was held at the Virginia Beach Sheraton on 11 December. A Holiday Cheer program was instituted for needy shipmates providing TICONDEROGA families with a holiday meal package. In addition, TICONDEROGA hosted homeless children from Parc Place shelter at its children's Christmas party. TICONDEROGA completed 1992 enjoying the holiday leave period in Norfolk, Virginia.