



COMMANDING OFFICER
USS TICONDEROGA (CG-47)
FPO AE 09588 - 1158

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From: Commanding Officer, USS TICONDEROGA (CG 47)
To: Director of Naval History (N09BH), Washington Navy Yard,
901 M Street, SE, Washington DC 20374-5060

Subj: COMMAND HISTORY

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12E

Encl: (1) Command History for 1995
(2) Welcome Aboard pamphlet

1. In accordance with reference (a), enclosures (1) and (2) are submitted for historical record.


C. T. BUSH

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COMNAVSURFLANT
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COMMAND HISTORY

1.COMMAND COMPOSITION AND ORGANIZATION

USS TICONDEROGA (CG-47) is the lead ship of 27 in her class of guided missile cruisers, the first surface combatant equipped with the AEGIS Weapon system. Designed for air warfare, her other primary capabilities of surface warfare, undersea warfare, and command and control give her a tremendous multi-warfare capability to strengthen a battle group's effectiveness, defense and survivability. She will shift homeport from Norfolk, VA to Pasquagoula, MS in July 1996 and become one of the leading units of the recently stood up Western Hemisphere Group. TICONDEROGA is commanded by Commander Charles T. Bush, United States Navy.

USS TICONDEROGA (CG-47) HISTORY OF KEY EVENTS--1995

<u>DATE</u>	<u>EVENT</u>
03JAN-19JAN	IMAV
16JAN-20JAN	AVCERT TECHNICAL ASSIST
20JAN	EMBARKED HSL-46 DET 2 FOR JTFEX
21JAN-31JAN	JTFEX
22JAN	TICONDEROGA's 12th BIRTHDAY
24JAN	SEARCH AND RESCUE MISSION
04FEB	TICONDEROGA RETURNED FROM JTFEX
13FEB	"BZ" FROM RADM ABBOT FOR JTFEX
13FEB-15FEB	INPORT TRAINING (MODIFIED SWTW)
13FEB-17FEB	PRE-DEPLOYMENT BRIEFS
	AVCERT/ARE
	MEDICAL READINESS INSPECTION
14FEB	TICONDEROGA RECEIVES BATTLE EFFICIENCY AWARD
20FEB-23MAR	POM PERIOD NORFOLK
27FEB-03MAR	LMA ASSIST
27FEB-02MAR	LOGISTICS BRIEFS
01MAR-20MAR	POM
06MAR-17MAR	PHYSICAL READINESS TEST
13MAR	EMBARKED DESRON 22
22MAR-22SEP	DEPLOY JTG 95-2
01APR-05APR	ASGN: TF 020
06APR-30JUN	ASGN: TF 060
07APR-09APR	UPK: ROTA, SPAIN
14APR-16APR	PALMA DE MALLORCA, SPAIN
18APR-27APR	ADRIATIC SEA-REDCROWN DUTIES

19APR	DISTINGUISHED VISIT- CONGRESSMAN HOYER
28APR-11MAY	NATO EXERCISE DESTINED GLORY-95
13MAY-16MAY	UPK: GENOA, ITALY
18MAY-22MAY	UPK: TOULON, FRANCE
21MAY	DRAUGUIGNAN MEMORIAL SERVICE
23MAY-31MAY	NATO EXERCISE TRIDENTE-95
31MAY	CDR BUSH, PCO, ARRIVED
05JUN-11JUN	IMAV: CARTAGENA, SPAIN
08JUN	CHANGE OF COMMAND
12-21JUN	U/W MED TRAINING OPS W/ USCGC DALLAS
21JUN-25JUN	UPK: TOULON, FRANCE
26JUN-29JUN	U/W TRAINING FOR ADRIATIC OPERATIONS
30JUN-06JUL	PVST: VILLEFRANCHE, FRANCE
06JUL	JUSTICE SCALIA VISIT, TOUR, AND LUNCHEON
09JUL-23JUL	REDCROWN AND SHARPGUARD DUTIES
11JUL-14JUL	ENGINEERING TRAINING GROUP VISIT
17JUL-23JUL	CART PHASE I
24JUL-28JUL	UPK: TRIESTE, ITALY
27JUL	AWARDED ARLEIGH BURKE FLEET TROPHY
29JUL-11AUG	CVN ESCORT: USS THEODORE ROOSEVELT
10AUG	NAMFI MISSILE EXERCISE
21AUG-25AUG	PVST: RODHOS, GREECE
28AUG-31AUG	PVST: MONACO
01SEP-06SEP	PVST: BARCELONA, SPAIN
08SEP	TURNOVER WITH USA BATTLE GROUP
09SEP	ATLANTIC TRANSIT TO HOMEPORT, NORFOLK
21SEP	ARRIVAL HOMEPORT: NORFOLK, VIRGINIA
21SEP-21OCT	POST DEPLOYMENT UPKEEP
16OVT-19OCT	AMMUNITION OFFLOAD: YORKTOWN, VA
20OCT	ADM AMERAULT VISIT
21OCT	SHIFT ISIC TO WESTERN HEMISPHERE GROUP
27OCT	ADM FLANAGAN VISIT
30OCT	CONGRESSMAN WATTS VISIT
01NOV-03NOV	TYPE TRAINING: VACAPES OPAREA
16NOV	MOVE TO MOON SHIPYARD FOR SRA
15NOV-09FEB	IMAV/SRA
27NOV-30NOV	AEGIS MAINTENANCE TEAM VISIT
30NOV	NATO SECRET INSPECTION
15DEC	CHRISTMAS LEAVE STARTS

NARRATIVE:

January began the year at a fast pace. Exercises such as LINK-11 Long Look, Environmental Health Survey, and an AVCERT technical assist occurred while preparing for JTFEX. There were JFACC and Logistics conferences in the first two weeks of the month and by the third week HSL-46 DET 2 had reported onboard ready for duty. TICONDEROGA successfully fulfilled the demanding role of Air Defense Zone Coordinator for the Amphibious Readiness Group during the amphibious raid portion of FLEETEX. TICONDEROGA was vigorously tested in its primary role of air defense and performed superbly. TICONDEROGA was also involved in the rescue of petty officer first class Mike Odom, a Coast Guard SAR swimmer. PO1 Odom was stranded for five hours off the coast of Georgia in a life raft when the cable hoist to the rescue helicopter unraveled. TICONDEROGA provided medical treatment to Petty Officer Odom prior to his transfer to shore the next day. On the twenty-second TICONDEROGA celebrated her twelfth birthday with a traditional birthday party on the crew mess deck.

The highlights of February were the return from JTFEX, AVCERT/ARE, and an LMA Assist visit. The month started with the return from JTFEX followed by a "BRAVO ZULU" from COMMANDER CARRIER GROUP EIGHT for a job well done. The week of the thirteenth was one of the busiest on record: AVCERT/ARE, Pre-deployment briefs, Inport training, and Medical Readiness Inspection were all successfully accomplished. TICONDEROGA was fully certified to carry and operate a LAMPS III helicopter for two years. The ARE, COMNAVSURFLANT's assessment of our aviation training and readiness, was accomplished in near record time taking only one hour to determine that the program was complete and correct. TICONDEROGA is unique in that it has the Alternate Traversing System (ATS) installed. On the fourteenth, the much anticipated official notification confirming the achievement of TICONDEROGA's first BATTLE EFFICIENCY AWARD for CY-1994. In preparation for deployment, the POM period commenced on the 20th with the crew being granted increased liberty and leave opportunities. On the 27th, TICONDEROGA completed the LMA Assist visit. The Assist team covered 3M maintenance training, administration procedures, and common errors in the 3M program. Finally the end of month brought the final series of pre-deployment briefs for the Commanding Officer and Executive Officer.

March was the start of TICONDEROGA's six-month Mediterranean deployment, JTG 95-2. The month began with the conclusion of the LMA Assist and Logistics briefs. During the second week of the month the semi-annual physical readiness tests (PRT) was administered for all personnel. The PRT was conducted daily for two weeks so that the entire ship could participate and still enjoy the POM period. On the thirteenth, CAPT Myers, DESRON TWO TWO, and staff embarked. On the twenty second of March TICONDEROGA got underway for JTG 95-2. While underway in transit TICONDEROGA completed

many training evolutions; exercises ranged from simple communication exercises to complex synthetic AAW exercises and GQ casualty drills.

In April, assigned to NATO Task Force 060, TICONDEROGA proceeded to the Adriatic Sea to assume duties as REDCROWN in support of Operation Deny Flight and to patrol MAVERICK OPAREA for Operation Sharp Guard. Duties as REDCROWN included the close surveillance of airspace and aircraft operating in the vicinity of Bosnia-Herzegovina and the correlation of friendly and potential hostile aircraft. TICONDEROGA concurrently supported OPERATION SHARP GUARD which is the enforcement of the NATO arms embargo in the Adriatic Sea. On the 19th of April, TICONDEROGA received a special visit from Congressman Hoyer. Congressman Hoyer stayed for one day, he spoke with the Tico Maryland residents and had a formal lunch with the officers in the wardroom.

During May, TICONDEROGA participated in NATO exercise DESTINED GLORY-95 and conducted more naval gunfire support live firing in two weeks than most ships do in an entire year. The Capo Teulada firing range, Sardinia, really took a Tico 5"/54 beating! DESTINED GLORY concluded on the 11th with a NGFS demonstration for VIPs using HE rounds and final lessons learned briefs for all participating units. In the evening of the 11th, TICONDEROGA began her transit to Genoa, Italy for a port visit after 28 days at sea. After a few days in Genoa it was time to head for Toulon, France. TICONDEROGA arrived in Toulon on the 18th and immediately started preparations for various ship tours and the Drauguignan Memorial Service. The Drauguignan Memorial Service is an annual service for the Americans and French service members who died in World War II. It was held in the outskirts of the town of Drauguignan, where an American and French cemetery is located. On the 22nd, TICONDEROGA was underway for Capo Teulada again for the NATO exercise TRIDENTE-95. TRIDENTE was an intense combination of multi-warfare exercises divided into a training phase and a tactical free play phase.

The change of command on the eighth of June was the main event for the month. Captain Gary Storm was relieved by Commander Tom Bush, a plankowner during IMAV in Cartagena, Spain. The ceremony was thirty minutes long and was followed by a reception for all participants. From the 12th to the 20th, TICONDEROGA conducted an intense underway training schedule to prepare USCGC Dallas for Adriatic Operations. On the 19th TICONDEROGA had a change of port visit plans. Instead of Malaga, Spain TICONDEROGA pulled into Toulon, France to conduct weight tests on the recently repaired sliding padeye, a support structure used during underway replenishment. On the 26th TICONDEROGA was underway again. This period was devoted strictly to training and readiness for REDCROWN duties and support of OPERATION SHARP GUARD. On the 30th, TICONDEROGA pulled into her adopted homeport, Villefrance, France. This port was the most enjoyed inport period since TICONDEROGA left Norfolk in March and was for most the highlight of the entire deployment.

In July, after a short transit to the Adriatic, TICONDEROGA in-chopped to CTG 440.01 to assume duties as REDCROWN and reporting unit for MAVERICK OPAREA until the 23rd of the month. On the 11th through the 14th Engineering

Training Group evaluated the readiness of TICONDEROGA's Engineering department and propulsion and auxiliary equipment. The Command Assessment of Readiness and Training (CART) Phase I began on the 17th and continued until the 23rd. During this period TICONDEROGA concentrated on the projection of personnel manning and training. On 27 July TICONDEROGA was awarded the Arleigh Burke Fleet Trophy for most improved ship in Atlantic Fleet and on the 29th TICONDEROGA was underway for escort duties for USS Theodore Roosevelt.

In August TICONDEROGA was busy conducting plane guard operations with the USS THEODORE ROOSEVELT in the Adriatic Sea. TICONDEROGA aided in the air coordination of several of Theodore Roosevelt's air strikes against land target in Bosnia. On the 7th exercise Coiled Cobra began. Coiled Cobra was an intense multi-warfare exercise involving the USS THEODORE ROOSEVELT, HUE CITY, MISSISSIPPI, and other various NATO warships. TICONDEROGA performed duties as AW, air warfare commander, and AX, undersea warfare commander, during this mini FLEETEX equivalent. Upon the conclusion of Coiled Cobra TICONDEROGA proceeded to the NAMFI missile range north of Crete for two missile exercises. Both missiles were successfully engaged with a skin to skin hit achieved on the low altitude missile approach.

September was the final month of TICONDEROGA's MED-95 deployment. After the turnover with the USA Battle Group, TICONDEROGA proceeded home.

On the 21st TICONDEROGA arrived one day early to her homeport, Norfolk, Virginia to avoid hurricane MARILYN. Upon arrival the post-deployment upkeep began and the crew was given time to relax and get reacquainted with their families and loved ones.

On the twentieth of October ADM Amerault paid a visit to TICONDEROGA to welcome the crew to Western Hemisphere Group. ADM Flanagan visited TICONDEROGA on the twenty-seventh to congratulate the crew on a successful deployment and to present the crew with the Arleigh Burke Award for 1994.

TICONDEROGA began the month of November underway conducting independent exercise for type training. Upon arrival in Norfolk, preparations began for entering SRA and IMAV period. Defueling was conducted and TICONDEROGA moored at Moon Engineering, Portsmouth, VA. At the end of the month TICONDEROGA had the honor of hosting CAPT Van Saun, the CHIEF OF STAFF COMMANDER WESTERN HEMISPHERE GROUP, for ship tour and lunch in the wardroom. Also, a NATO SECRET inspection was successfully completed on the 30th.

SRA/IMAV continued through the month of December. A cableway inspection was conducted on the second week and an intelligence oversight inspection was completed on the 12th. On the 15th the first Christmas leave period began. The 27th was turnover day and the first leave section was ready to take over the ship so the second section could to enjoy a well deserved ten day leave period.