



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
USS CHANCELLORSVILLE (CG 62)
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From: Commanding Officer, USS CHANCELLORSVILLE (CG62)
To: Chief of Naval Operations (N09BH)

SUBJ: COMMAND HISTORY FOR 1999

Ref: (a) Letter dated 17 Jul 2000 Ser 09BH/SH/OU505886
(b) OPNAVINST 5750.12G

Encl: (1) 1999 Command History Chronology
(2) 1999 Command History Narrative
(3) Commanding Officer's Biography
(4) Commanding Officer's Photograph
(5) CHANCELLORSVILLE Guidelines for Living
(6) CHANCELLORSVILLE Welcome Aboard Package (English Version)
(7) CHANCELLORSVILLE Welcome Aboard Package (Japanese Version)
(8) Ship's Picture

1. In response to reference (a) and in accordance with reference (b), enclosures 1 through 8 are submitted.


G.O. DORSEY

USS CHANCELLORSVILLE (CG 62)
COMMAND HISTORY FOR 1999
KEY CHRONOLOGICAL EVENTS FOR 1999

- 01 Jan USS CHANCELLORSVILLE participates in Yokosuka New Year's celebration with other Forward-Deployed Naval Forces (FDF) ships and Japanese Maritime Self-Defense Force (JMSDF) ships.
- 14 Jan Conducted Fast Cruise while in port Yokosuka.
- 18 Jan Held memorial service honoring Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.
- 20 - 22 Jan Underway in Philippine Sea for port visit to Guam and gunnery exercises.
- 22 Jan Arrived at Guam, the first visit by CHANCELLORSVILLE to the island. Welcomed by Guam Chamber of Commerce.
- 22 - 25 Jan Inport Guam.
- 24 Jan Community relations project in Guam for the retreat for troubled families run by Sister Mary.
- 25 - 31 Jan Underway in the Phillipine Sea for exercises.
- 27 Jan Conducted Naval Surface Fire Support (NSFS) exercise at Farallon de Medinilla.
- 31 Jan Returned to Yokosuka, Japan. Began upkeep period and pre-deployment preparations.
- 10 Feb Sharon H. Martin Excellence Award presented to RP1(AW) Glen Steward
- 12 Feb Wardroom Dining-out at Naval Base Yokosuka Officers' Club.
- 14 Feb Hosted Valentine's Day visit by orphans from Yurikagoen Orphanage in Odawara, Japan.
- 16 Feb Conducted training for USS KITTY HAWK Tactical Action Officers on CHANCELLORSVILLE capabilities and limitations.
- 18 - 19 Feb Underway south of Yokosuka, Japan. Conducted ammunition onload and sea trials.
- 21 Feb Served as a visit ship for the Fleet Activities Yokosuka Friendship Day. Hosted approximately 8,500 Japanese citizens.

23 Feb Moored to buoy D-2.in Yokosuka Harbor. Conducted ammunition onload.

25 Feb Hosted a barbecue with.the officers and crew of JDS HATAKAZE, the Japanese Maritime Self-Defense Force sister ship of CHANCELLORSVILLE.

01 Mar Onloaded personnel and equipment from Helicopter Antisubmarine Squadron, Light, 51(HSL 51) Detachment Four (Det 4) Embarked two representatives from the South Korean Navy for observation.

02 Mar Departed Yokosuka for WESTPAC deployment. Upcoming exercises included Multinational Training Exercise (MTX) 99, Tandem Thrust 99, and Cobra Gold. Received one helicopter from HSL 51 Det 4.

05 Mar CHANCELLORSVILLE awarded the COMNAVSURFPAC Safety Award

15 Mar Hosted visit by JMSDF Commander, Escort Flotilla 5.

19 Mar Arrived in Guam.

19 - 21 Mar Inport Guam for MTX 99 preparations. Embarked two additional members of the South Korean Navy and two members of the Australian Navy for observation

21Mar Departed Guam for exercises MTX 99 and Tandem Thrust 99.

22 Mar Served as Range Safety Officer and Officer in Charge of Exercise for live-fire missile and gunnery exercise portion of MTX 99.

24 Mar Served as Range Safety Officer for Harpoon Exercise portion of MTX 99.

25 Mar Disembarked South Korean riders.

27 Mar - 3 Apr Served as Surface Action Group B Commander for Tandem Thrust 99. Coordinated efforts of four ships in neutralizing simulated enemy air, surface, and subsurface forces.

31 Mar Conducted NSFS bombardment of Farallon de Mendinilla in support of Amphibious Ready Group landing (simulated).

01 Apr Disembarked Australian riders

02 -06 Apr Inport Guam

03 Apr Hosted visit by ADM Jay Johnson, Chief of Naval Operations. Embarked a second helicopter from HSL 51 and supporting personnel.

04 - 05 Apr Change-out of one of the ship's three gas turbine generators accomplished by Ship's Force and USS FRANK CABLE personnel.

04 Apr Community Relations project to Sister Mary's Youth Movement Camp in Guam.

06 Apr Departed Guam enroute to the Arabian Gulf. While supporting flight operations, bridge personnel spotted a vessel adrift west of Guam. Investigation revealed nine Chinese migrants adrift on the high seas. The migrants were brought on board, treated by medical staff, and transferred to Guam.

16 Apr Hosted a visit by RADM T. J. Keating, Commander, Carrier Battle Group Seven.

A Class "A" fire in the forward stacks was discovered, extinguished, and overhauled.

18 Apr Inchopped to Fifth Fleet.

20 Apr Transited Straits of Hormuz.

30 Apr Gas Turbine Systems (Mechanical) Chief Petty Officer Stephen Snyder was commissioned as a Chief Warrant Officer.

05 May Assisted in the medical evacuation of a crewmember off USS CHEYENNE, SSN-773

08-12 May Anchored at Sitrah Anchorage, Bahrain. Liberty port for the crew. Inchop briefs by Fifth Fleet staff.

09 May Community Relations project at the American Mission Hospital.

12 May Underway in the Arabian Gulf. Resumed duties as Air Defense Coordinator and Force Track Coordinator for Carrier Group Five.

25 - 29 May Inport Dubai.

26 May Community Relations project at the Al-Noor Handicapped School

28 May Hosted Mrs. Sue Riva and Mrs. Kay Bashaw, coordinators of the Dubai Meals in the Home Program.

29 May Underway in the Arabian Gulf. Resumed duties as Air Defense Coordinator and Force Track Coordinator for Carrier Group Five.

10 - 13 Jun Inport Dubai.

14 Jun HSL-51 Hellfire 05 performed rescue of downed F-14 pilot

30 Jun - 05 Jul Inport Jebel Ali. Performed hull cleaning.

04 Jul Celebrated Fourth of July with the Dubai American Business Association at their annual party. Community Relations project at the Holy Trinity Church of Dubai

06 Jul Resumed duties as Air Defense Coordinator and Force Track Coordinator for Carrier Group Five.

07 Jul Hosted visit by ADM Archie Clemins, CINCPACFLT

09 Jul Hosted VADM Moore, Commander, Fifth Fleet and U.S. Naval Central Command.

13 Jul Hosted visit by GEN Zinni, Commander in Chief, U.S. Central Command.

14 Jul Turned over with USS Theodore Roosevelt Carrier Battle Group. Turned over Air Defense Coordinator for U. S. Naval Forces in Central Command to USS LEYTE GULF.

15 Jul Transitted the Straits of Hormuz, outbound. Commenced transit to Australia

17 Jul Outchopped from Fifth Fleet. Inchopped to Seventh Fleet.

27 Jul - 01 Aug Inport Fremantle, Australia

31 Jul - 01 Aug Opened ship for Australian visitors. Hosted approximately 7,000 visitors.

02 - 09 Aug Underway, transiting from Australia to Thailand

06 Aug Conducted post-Deployment awards ceremony; awards given by RADM T. J. Keating and CAPT V. J. Andrews.

07 - 08 Aug Engaged in Dual Battle Group Operations with USS and USS KITTY HAWK Carrier Battle Groups

10 - 14 Aug Anchored, Phattya Beach, Thailand.

- 10 Aug Delivered Project: Handclasp material to flood victims on Thailand's eastern seashore
- 11 Aug Community Relations project to the Phattya School for the Blind
- 12 Aug CAPT Vincent J. Andrews relieved as Commanding Officer, USS CHANCELLORSVILLE, by CAPT Gordon O. Dorsey while anchored in Phattya Beach, Thailand.
- 15 Aug Departed Phattya Beach, Thailand, enroute Yokosuka, Japan.
- 25 Aug Returned to Yokosuka, Japan. Began post-deployment leave and stand-down period.
- 26 Aug Cofferdam installed on Sonar Dome for temporary repairs to Sonar Dome rupture.
- 22 Sep Leave and Stand-down period concluded. All hands mustered for return to normal working routine.
- 06 Oct Performed off-load of one standard missile and two exercise torpedoes.
- 08 Oct Performed Fast Cruise while in port Yokosuka.
- 12 - 14 Oct Underway in and around R-116 Operating area off the southern coast of Japan.

Workups completed in all warfare areas, in damage control, and in engineering. Speed trials on Sonar Dome repairs completed successfully.
- 15 Oct Underway for Dependents' Cruise. Family and friends of USS CHANCELLORSVILLE Sailors were embarked and taken underway into Sagami Wan operating area.
- 19 Oct Hosted Tour by Atsugi Houjin-kai, a Japanese Business group based in Atsugi, Japan.
- 22 Oct - 10 Nov Underway in company with USS KITTY HAWK for exercises Foal Eagle '99 and AnnualEx 11G
- 24 Oct Served as Officer in Tactical Control for Towed Decoy Unit exercise.
- 26 Oct Sales and Service personnel recognized with Type Commander award for contributions to CHANCELLORSVILLE Sailors' quality of life.

30 Oct CHANCELLORSVILLE personnel worked in cooperation with EOD Mobile Unit 5 from USS KITTY HAWK on jammed gun drill.

03 Nov Foal Eagle '99 concluded

04 Nov Commenced AnnualEx 11G. Engaged in photo exercise with over 20 ships of the U.S. Navy and the Japanese Maritime Self-Defense Force.
Celebrated 10th birthday of USS CHANCELLORSVILLE.

05 Nov Served as Search-and-Attack Unit Commander for multi-ship submarine familiarization exercise.

10 Nov Returned to Yokosuka following fall exercises.

15 - 17 Nov Anchored in A-12 anchorage outside of Yokosuka Harbor for off-loading of ammunition.

18 - 19 Nov Conducted defueling of the ship in preparation for entry into dry dock.

19 Nov Hosted visit by Seika Yochien Kindergarten School

23 Nov Entered Dry Dock 5 at Fleet Activities, Yokosuka, for Dry dock Ship Restrictive Availability (D-SRA)

01Dec Completed Safety Survey

03 Dec Hosted visit by RADM(ret.) Kemp Tolley

15 Dec Material Inspection Deferral Assessment performed by INSURV personnel, and completed successfully.

19 Dec Hosted Christmas party for Yurikagoen Orphanage on base.

USS CHANCELLORSVILLE (CG 62) COMMAND HISTORY FOR 1999

The beginning of the new year saw CHANCELLORSVILLE participating in Yokosuka New Year's celebration along with other Forward-Deployed Naval Forces (FDFN) ships and Japanese Maritime Self-Defense Force (JMSDF) ships. CHANCELLORSVILLE sounded its whistle for five minutes with the other ships in the area to welcome 1999. For the next two weeks, the crew finished its preparations to once again get underway after the holiday break, testing its readiness during a pierside "fast cruise." Also, a memorial service was held to remember the works and life of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. This gave the crew a chance to reflect on the Dr. King's contributions both in their lives and in the lives of others.

On 22 January, CHANCELLORSVILLE was underway in Philippine Sea, setting out for the tropical island of Guam. After engaging in engineering drills and other training evolutions at sea, the ship arrived in Guam to a warm welcome from the Guam Chamber of Commerce. This visit was the first visit by the ship to the island. The crew and officers took this time to enjoy a break and relax, taking advantage of deals offered by local hotels and shops.

While inport Guam, several members of the crew participated in a community relations project. They traveled to the Youth Movement Camp, a retreat for troubled families run by Sister Mary, a Catholic nun. Here they helped by clearing a field, helping members of the camp to plant crops and increase self-sufficiency. Also, some of the ship's engineers put their skills to work, converting the body of an old school bus into a living area complete with working electricity. Still other Sailors cleaned out animal cages and planting areas.

After departing Guam on 25 January, CHANCELLORSVILLE proceeded north, traversing the Marianas islands. While transiting, the ship conducted a Naval Surface Fire Support

(NSFS) exercise at Farallon de Medinilla. The "spotter," used to provide observation-based correction to the team's targeting solution, was airborne in a helicopter provided and flown by Helicopter Antisubmarine Squadron, Light, 51 (HSL 51) based out of Atsugi, Japan. The team performed well, earning a score of excellent from the NSFS spotter. The ship continued back towards Yokosuka, performing more training in all warfare areas during the transit.

During the month of February, the crew prepared for the upcoming Western Pacific deployment. All personnel diligently trained and ensured that all systems on the ship were set for the cruise. Even with this workload, however, the crew still found time to enjoy activities before leaving. On 12 February, the officers had a Wardroom Dining-out at Naval Base Yokosuka Officers' Club. On 14 February, the ship hosted a Valentine's Day visit by orphans from Yurikagoen Orphanage in Odawara, Japan. The crew enjoyed a lunch with the children, then gave them a tour of the ship. Under the watchful eyes of volunteers, the children even handled a fire hose.

Also in February, the officers and crew took time to honor one of their shipmates. Religious Programs Specialist First Class (RP1), Aviation Warfare, Glen Steward was awarded the Sponsor's Excellence award for his work both within the ship and with organizations off the ship. This award is given annually by Mrs. Sharron H. Martin, the ship's sponsor, to one candidate from the ship for work both for the ship and for the community. RP1 (AW) Steward was recognized for his contributions to community relations events and for his support in outreach to the Japanese military and citizenship, and for his role as coordinator of the ship's sponsor program.

On 18 February, the ship was again underway south of Yokosuka, Japan. Returning the next day, CHANCELLORSVILLE conducted an ammunition onload and sea trials. This onload modified the Vertical Launching System arsenal, giving the ship more Standard missiles, which are vital to the ship's normal role

as an air defense platform for the KITTY HAWK Battle Group. The onload was only partially completed due to heavy seas and was finished on 23 February while the ship was moored in Yokosuka. Also on 23 February, the ship moored to a buoy, practicing for the anticipated accommodations during the planned port visit to Hong Kong.

February 21 was the day selected by the Commander, Fleet Activities Yokosuka, for its annual Friendship Day. CHANCELLORSVILLE served as one of three "visit ships." Along with the Sailors on board USS KITTY HAWK and USS JOHN S. MCCAIN, the Sailors onboard CHANCELLORSVILLE opened up their ship to the general public living in or around Yokosuka. In all, approximately 8,500 visitors came onboard the ship and were shown CHANCELLORSVILLE's various systems and capabilities.

On February 25, the officers and crew of CHANCELLORSVILLE and the JDS HATAKAZE, the Japanese Maritime Self-Defense Force (JMSDF) sister ship of USS CHANCELLORSVILLE, had a barbecue on Naval Base Yokosuka. The two crews compared delicacies, with the CHANCELLORSVILLE Sailors preparing hamburgers and hot dogs while the Japanese sailors offering such traditional Japanese items as yakisoba and sake.

On March 1, aircrew and pilots from HSL 51 arrived on the ship, moving on the equipment necessary to support one of their helicopters. This group, along with two other pilots and one sensor operator, were designated as Detachment Four (Det 4) of the HSL-51 Squadron.

The next day, March 2, 1999, CHANCELLORSVILLE departed Yokosuka for its WESTPAC deployment. Upcoming exercises included the Multinational Training Exercise (MTX) '99, Tandem Thrust '99, and Cobra Gold. The helicopter from HSL 51 flew on later in the day and the ship proceeded in company with KITTY HAWK, heading to Okinawa and then on to Guam.

There were a number of significant events during the initial leg of the transit. CHANCELLORSVILLE served as the KITTY HAWK Carrier Battle Group Air Warfare Commander and Force Track

Coordinator. Along the way, the crew also made preparations for a variety of upcoming exercises and weapons firings. The ship had the opportunity to host visit by the Commander, JMSDF Escort Flotilla Five. Finally, the ship also received notification that it had been awarded the COMNAVSURFPAC Safety award, the ship's fifth consecutive award.

Upon arrival in Guam, the preparations for the upcoming exercises began. Numerous briefs occurred on the Guam Naval base to ensure safe and efficient execution of the upcoming exercises. This also allowed the exercise participants to interact and compare methods of communication and operation.

Multinational Exercise (MTX) and Tandem Thrust '99 saw CHANCELLORSVILLE taking on more responsibilities in the Kitty Hawk Battle Group. After arriving in Guam, several members of CHANCELLORSVILLE attended planning sessions in preparation for the exercises to come. Once underway, the ship's served as Range Safety Officer and Officer in Tactical Command for live-fire missile and gunnery exercise portion of MTX 99, involving ships from the navies of Australia, Canada, Singapore, and South Korea. Under the direction of CHANCELLORSVILLE, ten ships were able to conduct missile and gun engagements on a target towed by a small commercial jet with zero incidents.

CHANCELLORSVILLE also served as Range Safety Officer for Harpoon Exercise portion of MTX '99. The target for this exercise was an old cruiser, the ex-USS OKLAHOMA CITY. CHANCELLORSVILLE used its radars and helicopters to monitor fishing and commercial traffic in a 100 mile-radius area. Large amounts of fishing traffic precluded the safe execution of the Harpoon attack, forcing CHANCELLORSVILLE and the other ships to implement a secondary plan for the exercise, bombarding the old ship with rounds from its 5-inch guns. Though together the ships razed the superstructure of the old cruiser, a South Korean submarine dealt the final blow with one of its torpedoes, sending the ship to the bottom of the ocean.

During this period, the ship also hosted members of the

Australian and South Korean Navies as part of an international exchange program. Two South Koreans came on board in Yokosuka, transiting to Guam with the ship. Once in Guam, two additional South Korean sailors and two Australian officers came onboard. During the exercises, these riders observed American procedures and tactics and assisted in communications with ships from their respective countries.

Following MTX '99, the Singaporean and South Korean ships detached, leaving the Australian and American forces to square off against the Canadian forces as part of Tandem Thrust '99. CHANCELLORSVILLE served as Surface Action Group B Commander escorting the USS FORT MCHENRY, an amphibious assault ship tasked to support a marine landing as part of the exercise. The ship pulled into Guam early, arriving the afternoon of 2 April.

While in port Guam, the engineers onboard CHANCELLORSVILLE teamed up with representatives from the USS Frank Cable to accomplish a change out of one of the ship's Gas Turbine Generators. The team worked for approximately twenty-four hours straight, accomplishing the removal of the worn generator, and the installation of the new generator. Though this process normally is done in the course of a week in shipyards, the short-notice deployment to the Arabian Gulf demanded this rapid response by ship's personnel.

On 03 April, the ship was privileged to host Admiral Jay L. Johnson, Chief of Naval Operations. The CNO addressed the crew, specifically explaining the impending need for the KITTY HAWK battle group to transit to the Arabian Gulf. CHANCELLORSVILLE departed Guam in company with KITTY HAWK and USS CURTIS WILBUR for the Arabian Gulf on the morning of 6 April as part of a surge deployment.

Before leaving Guam, however, a group of CHANCELLORSVILLE sailors again set out for the Youth Movement camp of Sister Mary. On this trip, the Sailors brought clothes and materials from Project Handclasp. This project provides goods to improve the standard of living in less developed countries, providing such

basic items as medical supplies. Included in this package for the camp were two sewing machines. The Sailors assembled, tested and installed these machines, and created a sewing room from the frame of an old school bus.

While steaming westward from Guam, the bridge watch team spotted a strange red light low in the water. Maneuvering around to investigate, a small boat was spotted and cries for help were heard. The ship launched its Rigid Hull Inflatable Boat (RHIB) to investigate and discovered nine Chinese migrants. Finding the migrants without food, water, or fuel, CHANCELLORSVILLE embarked the nine individuals. The crew provided food, water, clothes and medical attention for the migrants. A flight surgeon was sent from the Kitty Hawk to direct medical assistance, and subsequently to supervise the evacuation of the refugees to Guam for thorough medical treatment. After marking the craft for the Coast Guard, CHANCELLORSVILLE resumed transiting in company with KITTY HAWK.

On 16 April, Rear Admiral Timothy Keating, Commander, Carrier Task Group Seven arrived for a brief visit. After observing a training scenario in Combat Information Center, he addressed the crew, speaking to the concerns the crew had regarding the schedule of events for the Arabian Gulf deployment.

Also on 16 April, the crew discovered a Class "A" fire in the uptakes of the forward gas turbines. Members of the engineering department extinguished the fire. After overhaul and testing of the ship's turbines, the ship resumed its high-speed transit, entering the Arabian Gulf and the Fifth Fleet Area of responsibility.

Upon arrival in the Arabian Gulf, CHANCELLORSVILLE assumed duties as Regional Air Defense Coordinator for Fifth Fleet. This involved supervising the "check-in" and "check-out" of all aircraft flying off the USS KITTY HAWK. For almost all of these missions, CHANCELLORSVILLE was actually in control of all of KITTY HAWK's airborne craft. In total, CHANCELLORSVILLE supported over 5,000 sorties, including 1,400 missions in support

of Operation SOUTHERN WATCH. HSL 51 Detachment 4, attached to CHANCELLORSVILLE, also flew during this time, providing "over the horizon" (OTH) detection, identification, and classification.

CHANCELLORSVILLE also had the chance to support other units. A request for a humanitarian evacuation from a U.S. submarine was answered by the ship. The ship used its small boat to pick up the Sailor from the submarine. After the boat's return to CHANCELLORSVILLE, it was a simple matter to transfer the Sailor to Bahrain by one of the embarked helicopters. Also, on June 14, the helicopter detachment again was able to help out a Sailor. An F-14 experienced problems in flight and downed in the Arabian Gulf. One of the HSL 51 helicopters working with a helicopter from the KITTY HAWK was able to rescue the pilot and radar intercept officer from the aircraft. The rapid, professional rescue of the two aviators helped ensure the two remained injury-free when returned to the aircraft carrier.

While deployed to the Arabian Gulf, CHANCELLORSVILLE visited several ports. In May, CHANCELLORSVILLE visited the ports of Bahrain and Dubai, United Arab Emirates. In Bahrain, CHANCELLORSVILLE anchored in Sitrah Harbor. The berthing in Dubai was at the port of Mina Rashid, offering the crew easy access to the city. While in Dubai, the crew participated in the "Meals in the Home" program. This program pairs visiting sailors with expatriate families in the Dubai area. CHANCELLORSVILLE returned to Dubai in mid-June, this time in company with the KITTY HAWK.

The ship's Morale, Welfare, and Recreation (MWR) program was active in all of these ports. Working in concert with local providers of tours, the MWR personnel opened up a wide variety of activities to the Sailors. These tours took CHANCELLORSVILLE crewmembers out in the desert in 4x4 vehicles, pearl diving, and around the cities of Dubai and Bahrain, among other activities.

The Chaplain's Department also organized Community Relations projects for each port visit. In Bahrain, Sailors painted and refurbished parts of the American Mission Hospital.

In Dubai, they visited the Al-Noor Handicapped School. Here some of the crew helped to work with the children, while others performed clean-up projects around the school grounds. Finally, while in Dubai on July 4th, Sailors painted the inside of Trenty Hall in the Holy Trinity Church of Dubai.

While underway in the Arabian Gulf, CHANCELLORSVILLE hosted visits from several ranking officers. Vice Admiral Moore, Commander, Fifth Fleet and U. S. Naval Central Command spoke to the crew about their role as a member of Fifth Fleet and how the patrols around Iraq had significance to those friends and family back in the United States. Admiral Archie Clemens, Commander in Chief of the Pacific Fleet, also addressed this issue as well as the role Sailors were playing in the Pacific theater as members of the Forward Deployed Naval Forces. Finally, General Zinni, U.S. Marine Corps, Commander in Chief, U.S. Central Command, emphasized the stability that the battle group's presence brought to the region and the role they were playing in U.S. national security.

In July, CHANCELLORSVILLE returned to the United Arab Emirates. This time, due to the possibility of a terrorist threat, KITTY HAWK and CHANCELLORSVILLE berthed in Jebel Ali. While here, the officers and crew were invited to join the Dubai American Business Association for a Fourth of July celebration. The crew was treated to a cook-out and a fireworks display. While in Dubai, the crew also performed a thorough cleaning of the ship's sides.

On July 14, CHANCELLORSVILLE conducted turnover with USS LEYTE GULF as the USS THEODORE ROOSEVELT prepared to relieve the KITTY HAWK Carrier Battle Group as Battle Force Fifth Fleet. After LEYTE GULF relieved CHANCELLORSVILLE as Regional Air Defense Coordinator, CHANCELLORSVILLE headed west. Transiting the Straits of Hormuz on 15 July 99, she sailed in company with the USS KITTY HAWK and USS CURTIS WILBUR.

One day out of Fremantle, Australia, CHANCELLORSVILLE's sonar dome ruptured. Inspection by divers in Australia revealed

a five-foot vertical tear. After consultation with various organizations including Naval Sea Systems Command the decision was made to sail from Australia as planned, though at limited speeds. A patch would be applied upon return to Japan, and permanent repairs would be conducted in the winter.

Heading southeast through the Indian Ocean, the group soon arrived in Fremantle, Australia. Here, CHANCELLORSVILLE hosted a visit ship event as she and KITTY HAWK were opened to the Australian public. Also, the ship's MWR program was again active in port, helping sailors to experience the thrill of boomeranging, to see native animals, and to arrange hotel accommodations in Perth and Fremantle. Also in Fremantle, the Chaplain's Department organized a Community Relations project to Fremantle Hospital, where Sailors visited the children's and elderly wards.

Following the visit to Fremantle, the battle group proceeded to Phattya, Thailand. Along the way, the ships engaged in dual battle group operations with the USS CONSTELLATION battle group, enroute to the Arabian Gulf. While in Thailand, the ship held its change of command ceremony, with Captain Gordon O. Dorsey relieving Capt. Vincent Andrews as Commanding Officer. Also, while in Thailand, the ship made a delivery for Project Handclasp. This delivery helped aid victims of flooding on the eastern coast of Thailand. Also while in Thailand, a group of Sailors went to the Phattya School for the Blind.

USS CHANCELLORSVILLE departed Thailand on the morning of 15 August. From here, the ship traveled northeast, intending to pass to the north of the Philippines. A developing typhoon diverted the ship, driving the battle group to the south. The ship traversed the San Bernadino Straits, then continued towards Japan. CHANCELLORSVILLE returned on the morning of 25 August to Yokosuka. The ship subsequently entered a post deployment period of leave and stand down.

During this period, Yokosuka-based Navy divers installed a rubber patch on the ship's damaged sonar dome. This patch held

through pierside pressure tests and enabled the ship to resume unrestricted underway maneuvering, pending underway speed trials.

Following this leave and stand-down period, the ship began training for fall underway exercises. After two weeks of schools and maintenance, the ship was underway again on 12 October. CHANCELLORSVILLE traveled to operating area R-116 for training exercises. Operability tests were conducted in all warfare areas. Also, training evolutions were to test the ship's ability to cope with engineering casualties and to test the crew's damage control capabilities. Seamanship training was also conducted, with the ship training on the response to and recovery of a person lost overboard.

On 15 October, the ship held a Dependents Cruise, giving the crew an opportunity to show their families and friends what they do while at sea. For many of these people, this was their first opportunity to get underway onboard a Navy ship. A trip into the Sagami Wan operating area gave the guests a chance to see all aspects of the ship, from the working of the engineering plant to the information management of the Combat Information Center, to the role of the bridge in piloting the ship.

On 22 October, CHANCELLORSVILLE got underway in company with USS KITTY HAWK for annual fall exercises, the first of which was Foal Eagle 99. Working in concert with the Korean Navy off the South Korean coast, the ships participated in a variety of air, surface, and undersea exercises. Key to these exercises was establishing and maintaining exchange of tactical data with South Korean forces. Also during this time, CHANCELLORSVILLE performed an air warfare exercise involving the acquisition and engagement of a target towed by a commercial jet aircraft. CHANCELLORSVILLE personnel scored several direct hits, finally finishing by actually severing the tow cable that held one of the two targets.

On 26 October, the ship recognized S-3 division, responsible for ship's sales and services. Captain Dorsey presented the "Ship's Store Best Sales and Service Award" to division personnel and supply department officers. The personnel

were recognized for their high level of knowledge and for the exemplary day-to-day operations of ship's laundry, the barbershop and the Ship's Store. Also recognized was the Chief Engineer and members of Auxiliaries division for their support of ship's service through support and repair of S-3 division equipment.

Upon conclusion of Foal Eagle '99, ANNUALEX 11G began. The KITTY HAWK Battle Group moved south and east, and engaged in exercises with the JMSDF off the southern coast of Honshu. CHANCELLORSVILLE Sailors served in a key role maintaining the tactical data link that allowed all ships to maintain an accurate picture of events occurring in the exercises. Also, CHANCELLORSVILLE served as a Surface Action Group Commander, coordinating five other ships in an exercise with a Japanese submarine.

On 04 November, CHANCELLORSVILLE celebrated its 10th birthday, based on the ship's commissioning date. Two plankowners from the commissioning crew serving onboard gave their impressions of the ship and how it had improved over the first 10 years. A birthday cake was then served to all hands.

From 15 to 17 November, CHANCELLORSVILLE anchored at anchorage A-12 outside of Yokosuka Harbor. All the ship's ammunition was off-loaded to Fleet Activities Yokosuka Ordnance facilities in preparation for the ship's upcoming dry dock availability. Though rough seas precluded conducting ammunition movement on 16 November, ship's personnel still moved efficiently, working with the shipyard personnel to offload approximately 120,000 pounds of net explosive weight with zero incidents.

In the days following, the ship began defueling. Over the course of two days, all fuel save only the bare minimum needed to run a single emergency generator was removed. This was the final preparatory step prior to the ship entering dry dock.

Relieved of ammunition and fuel, the ship moved into dry dock on 23 November. Because CHANCELLORSVILLE had no fuel onboard, tugboats from Fleet Activities Yokosuka maneuvered the

ship into the dock. Once inside, divers aligned the wooden blocks on which the ship would rest. The dock was drained, and the ship rested solidly on the blocks. Ship's personnel soon moved from the ship's berthing compartments to berthing spaces on a floating "berthing barge." This allowed the crew to perform repairs and upkeep on the berthing areas, including resurfacing of the old decks and rack units.

After Thanksgiving, the availability work began in earnest. In addition to the repairs being done by Ship Repair Facility personnel, CHANCELLORSVILLE Sailors performed a number of their own upkeep tasks. Most notable was the rehabilitation of all berthing compartments. All berthing compartments were resurfaced, while one berthing compartment was completely redesigned, all of which was done by ship's personnel.

Shortly after entering dry dock, the ship completed two important inspections. The first, occurring the week after dry dock entry, was a safety inspection. That highlighted material discrepancies that were safety concerns. Second, on 15 December, the INSURV team came aboard for a Material Inspection Deferral Assessment. They judged the ship to be in satisfactory material condition, and deferred the INSURV inspection originally scheduled for February, 2000 for one year.

Also in December, the ship had the opportunity to host RADM (ret.) Kemp Tolley. RADM Tolley was the first Commander of Fleet Activities, Yokosuka. He was on base to dedicate the newly renamed Transient Personnel Unit.

Later that same week, the crew of CHANCELLORSVILLE welcomed a group of children from Yurikagoen Orphanage. For the second year in a row, the crew hosted a Christmas party at the base's roller skating rink. The sailors skated and ate with the children. They also distributed gifts bought for the children by CHANCELLORSVILLE Sailors, ensuring no child returned empty-handed.

1999 concluded with CHANCELLORSVILLE in Dry Dock 5 in Yokosuka, Japan, undergoing repairs. As the hour of midnight

drew near on 31 Dec, the ship again prepared to use its whistle and searchlights to join other American and Japanese ships in welcoming the New Year.