DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

USS CHANCELLORSVILLE (CG 62)
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From: Commanding Officer, USS CHANCELLORSVILLE (CG 62)
To: Chief of Naval Operations (N09BH)

Subj: COMMAND HISTORY FOR 2003

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12 (Series)

Encl: (1) 2003 Command History Chronology
(2) 2003 Command History Narrative
(3) Commanding Officer's Biography
(4) Commanding Officer's Photograph
(5) Ship's Picture
(6) Change of Command Program

1. Enclosures (1) through (6) are submitted in accordance with reference (a).

J. E. WILL

USS CHANCELLORSVILLE (CG 62)
COMMAND HISTORY

Key Chronological Events for 2003

01 January	USS CHANCELLORSVILLE (CG 62) welcomes the New Year in homeport; pier-side at Fleet Activities Yokosuka, Japan.
06 January	Command Indoctrination begins for newly reported personnel.
07 January	OS1(SW) Johnson selected as "Commander, Carrier Group FIVE's Sailor of the Year."
14 January	Underway to anchorage for ammunition transfer and return to port.
15 January	Underway to anchorage for ammunition transfer and return to port.
16 January	Underway to anchorage for ammunition transfer and return to port.
	E-7 advancement exam administered at Fleet Recreation Center.
17 January	Carrier Group FIVE staff conducts ISIC Board of Inspection and Survey (INSURV) pre-inspection.
11 February	LT James B. Miller relieves LT Matthew J. Kleva as Weapons Officer.
11 February	Observed National Foundation Day (Japan).
15 February	Underway from Yokosuka en route Okinawa Japan.
	Moored to buoy during outbound transit through Tokyo Bay.
16 February	HSL-51, Det 4 Fly on.
18 February	Conducted personnel transfer and towing exercise with USS OBRIEN (DD 975).
21 February	Moored at Navy Pier at White Beach, Okinawa, Japan.

Key Chronological Events for 2003 (Cont)

24 February	Underway from White Beach for Naval Surface Fire Support exercise.
28 February	Moored, Fleet Activities Yokosuka, Japan.
04 March	Retirement ceremony held onboard for YN1(SW) Phillip A. Bouse.
05 March	Underway for INSURV rehearsal and return to homeport.
06 March	Underway en route the Sea of Japan. HSL-51, Det 4 fly on.
	E-6 advancement exam administered onboard.
13 March	E-5 advancement exam administered onboard.
17 March	Conducted Underway Replenishment (UNREP) with USS SACRAMENTO (AOE 1).
20 March	E-4 advancement exam administered onboard.
22 March	Conducted UNREP with USS SACRAMENTO (AOE 1).
27 March	Conducted UNREP with USNS RAPPAHANNOCK (T-AO 204).
31 March	Conducted Vertical Replenishment (VERTREP) with USS VINCENNES (CG 49) for personnel and equipment transfer.
07 April	Moored, Fleet Activities, Yokosuka, Japan.
08 April	USS CHANCELLORSVILLE (CG 62) begins preparations for Drydocked Selective Restrictive Availability (DSRA).
10 April	Underway to anchorage for ammunition transfer and return to Harbor Master Pier, Fleet Activities, Yokosuka, Japan.
17 April	LCDR Angelo D. Burstion relieves LCDR William J. Parker as Executive Officer.
28 April	Underway from Harbor Master Piers to Dry Dock Five, Fleet Activities, Yokosuka, Japan. Dry Dock

Key Chronological Events for 2003 (Cont)

	Five drained for the maintenance and preservation of the ship's hull, sonar dome, and shafting.
29 April	Command Physical Fitness Assessment commences.
02 May	Command Physical Fitness Assessment concludes.
15 May	Frocking ceremony for new First, Second, and Third Class Petty Officers.
21 May	Vice Admiral Robert F. Willard, Commander, SEVENTH Fleet, visits, to present the COMNAVSURFPAC 2002 Battle "E" Award.
22 May	More than 60 Sailors visit the small arms range for 9mm, M-14 and shotgun qualifications.
27 May	More than 60 Sailors visit the small arms range for 9mm, M-14 and shotgun qualifications.
02 June	Command indoctrination begins for newly reported personnel.
18 June	Safety training held for all hands at the Fleet Theater at Fleet Activities, Yokosuka, Japan.
01 July	LT James B. Miller relieves LT John S. Rice as Combat Systems Officer. LT Miller continues his duties as Weapons Officer.
02 July	Commenced flooding Dry Dock Five.
03 July	Underway from Dry Dock Five to Harbor Master Pier, Fleet Activities, Yokosuka, Japan.
04 July	The Fourth of July is celebrated with Full Dress Ship by USS CHANCELLORSVILLE (CG 62) and other ships on the waterfront and with an evening of music and fireworks show hosted by Fleet Activities, Yokosuka, Japan.
11 July	Fast Cruise and Engineering plant light off.
	LT Robert M. Bruce relieves LT James B. Miller as Weapons Officer.

Key Chronological Events for 2003 (Cont)

15 July	Underway to anchorage for ammunition transfer.
18 July	Underway from anchorage to Harbor Master Pier, Fleet Activities, Yokosuka, Japan.
21 July	Underway for Sea Trials and Prospective Commanding Officer Demonstration.
24 July	Transit through Tokyo Bay to anchorage and return to sea for harbor familiarization and personnel transfer.
25 July	Captain Jonathan E. Will relieved Captain Tomas S. Kennedy at the Change of Command ceremony held onboard while underway in the Philippine Sea.
	Return to homeport, Harbor Master Pier, Yokosuka, Japan.
31 July	Official visit by Rear Admiral James D. Kelly, Commander, Carrier Group FIVE.
01 August	Berth shift to Pier Ten, Fleet Activities, Yokosuka, Japan.
03 August	In support of Friendship Day, Fleet Activites, Yokosuka, Japan opens its gates to the public including tours of USS CHANCELLORSVILLE (CG 62) and USS OBRIEN (DD 985). Nearly 1000 visitors toured both ships.
04 August	Berth shift to Harbor Master Pier, Fleet Activities, Yokosuka.
	Supply Management Assessment begins onboard.
	Tomahawk Cruise Missile Tactical Qualification (CMTQ) commenced.
07 August	Tomahawk CMTQ successfully concludes.
08 August	Supply Management Assessment concludes and is upgraded to a Supply Management Inspection due to excellent results.

Key Chronological Events for 2003 (Cont)

11 August	Underway en route Busan, South Korea in support of Counter-Special Operations Forces Exercise (CSOFEX)
14 August	Moored Busan, South Korea.
	Sailors join a local volunteer group to help clean a local beach.
17 August	Underway from Busan, South Korea for CSOFEX events in the Sea of Japan operating with ships from the Republic of Korea Navy and helicopter units from the U.S. Army.
19 August	CSOFEX concludes.
21 August	Conducted UNREP with USS SACRAMENTO (AOE 1).
25 August	Manned the rails as the ship enters port in Kagoshima, Japan on the island of Kyushu.
26 August	Sailors visit a Catholic orphanage in Kagoshima to help maintain the orphanage grounds and entertain the children.
27 August	Ship's Baseball Team plays Kagoshima International Baseball Team.
28 August	Underway from Kagoshima, Japan en route Yokosuka, Japan.
30 August	Return to homeport, Harbor Master Pier, Yokosuka, Japan.
02 September	Underway to anchorage for ammunition transfer.
03 September	Return to homeport, Harbor Master Pier, Yokosuka, Japan.
04 September	E-6 Advancement exam administered at Fleet Recreation Center.
11 September	Patriot Day observed with September 11th remembrance ceremony on Mess Decks.

Key Chronological Events for 2003 (Cont)

	E-5 Advancement exam administered at Fleet Recreation Center.
16 September	Frocking ceremony for new Chief Petty Officers; MRC(SW) Zoilo S. DeArce, OSC(SW) Timothy M. Johnson, and GSMC(SW) Frank B. Marcos.
18 September	E-4 Advancement Exam administered at Fleet Recreation Center.
19 September	LCDR Michael J. Lydon relieved as Chief Engineer LCDR Matthew J. Wukitch.
22 September	Underway en route Okinawa OPAREA.
28 September	Commenced testing of the Intra Battle Group Wireless Network (IBGWN) while underway in the Okinawa OPAREA with the ESSEX Expeditionary Strike Group.
29 September	Began four-week command indoctrination course for newly reported personnel
	Concluded IBGWN testing.
30 September	Moored at Navy Pier at White Beach, Okinawa, Japan.
01 October	Underway en route to Hong Kong
03 October	Swim Call held while underway in the South China Sea
04 October	Anchored in Victoria Harbour, Hong Kong, China
08 October	Underway from anchorage in Victoria Harbour, en route Okinawa, Japan.
10 October	Conducted live Close in Weapons System (CIWS) gunnery exercise successfully targeting an inbound drone glider pulled by a leer jet at over 300 knots.
11 October	Moored at Navy pier, White Beach, Okinawa, Japan.
12 October	Underway en route Yokosuka, Japan.

Key Chronological Events for 2003 (Cont)

13 October	Navy Birthday celebrated with a cake cutting ceremony for all hands.
14 October	Moored at Harbormaster Pier, Fleet Activities Yokosuka, Japan. USS CHANCELLORSVILLE (CG 62) continued its preparation for INSURV with a Damage Control assist visit from the Commander, Surface Forces, Pacific (SURFPAC) Damage Control Officer. Commenced Operation Fortress Predator 03-1.
15 October	Naval Safety Center conducts a ship wide survey to assist during INSURV preparations.
16 October	Awards ceremony held on flight deck with all hands in attendance followed by a well attended command picnic .
18 October	Underway from Yokosuka en route Guam.
22 October	Escorted Chinese People's Liberation Army (Navy)(PLA(N)) destroyer SHENZEN and oiler QINGHAI HU into Apra Harbor, Guam to host the first ever visit to Guam by the Chinese Navy. Following a Welcome Ceremony on the pier, a reception was held in the evening at the Outrigger hotel in Tumon co -hosted by Rear Adm. Xue Tianpei, Deputy Commander of the People's Republic of China's South Sea Fleet, and Rear Adm. Frederic R. Ruehe, Commander, U.S. Naval Forces, Japan
23 October	Hosted over 100 Chinese PLA(N) Sailors onboard for ship tours while over 100 CHANCELLORSVILLE Sailors toured the SHENZEN.
24 October	CHANCELLORSVILLE again hosted over 100 Chinese PLA(N) Sailors onboard for ship tours while over 100 CHANCELLORSVILLE Sailors toured the QINGHAI HU. 35 CHANCELLORSVILLE Sailors also attended a farewell reception onboard the SHENZEN.
25 October	Underway from Apra Harbor, Guam en route Yokosuka, Japan.

Key Chronological Events for 2003 (Cont)

	Conducted PASSEX with PLA(N) destroyer SHENZEN.
28 October	Moored at Harbormaster Pier, Fleet Activities Yokosuka, Japan.
29 October	LT Joel Stewart relieved as Operations Officer by LT John R. Callaway.
01 November	Underway from Yokosuka, Japan en route Okinawa, Japan.
03 November	Moored at Navy pier, White Beach, Okinawa, Japan to load equipment and embark technicians in support of MISSELEX 04-01.
04 November	Underway from White Beach to Okinawa OPAREA.
05 November	Successfully completed MISSELEX 04-1 while underway in the Okinawa OPAREA with USS COWPENS (CG 63) and USS OBRIEN (DD 985).
	Embarked personnel and equipment transferred to USS COWPENS (CG 63) and ashore via small boat and Helicopter.
	Commenced transit to Singapore in support of International Maritime Defense Exposition, Asia (IMDEX Asia) 2003.
10 November	Moored at Changi Naval Base, Singapore for IMDEX Asia 2003. Also participating in present at Changi Naval base were vessels representing the navies of France, Australia, Thailand, China, and India.
13 November	Reception held onboard for IMDEX Asia participants while pier side, Changi Naval Base.
14 November	Underway from Singapore en route Okinawa, Japan.
20 November	Frocking ceremony held for newly advanced Petty Officers.
	Anchored at White Beach, Okinawa, Japan.
21 November	Moored at Navy pier, White Beach, Okinawa, Japan

	for a brief stop for personnel and parts.
	Underway from White Beach en route Sasebo, Japan.
22 November	Moored Sasebo, Japan for brief stop for personnel and parts.
23 November	Underway from Sasebo en route the Sea of Japan.
27 November	Thanksgiving celebrated with a feast for the crew while underway in the Sea of Japan.
28 November	Moored in Sasebo, Japan for typhoon avoidance while proceeding from Sea of Japan to Yokosuka, Japan.
02 December	Underway from Sasebo, Japan en route Yokosuka, Japan.
04 December	Moored at Harbormaster Pier, Fleet Activities Yokosuka, Japan.
10 December	Commenced INSURV rehearsals.
12 December	Underway for INSURV Material Inspection underway demonstration rehearsal.
13 December	Moored at Pier six, Fleet Activities Yokosuka, Japan.
15 December	Board of Inspection and Survey arrives to conduct INSURV material inspection.
16 December	INSURV continues inport, Yokosuka, Japan.
17 December	Underway for INSURV underway demonstration.
	Performed two anchorages, AFFF light off, full power run, air warfare engagement, undersea warfare demonstration, and countermeasure wash down.
	Moored Pier six, Fleet Activities Yokosuka, Japan.
18 December	INSURV is successfully concluded after over 100 months passed between inspections.

Key Chronological Events for 2003 (Cont)

19 December	OSC(SW/AW) Wiley and GMC(SW) Browning are commissioned to the ranks of Ensign and Chief Warrant Officer Second Class, respectively, onboard during a ceremony in the helicopter hangar. Commenced Holiday Stand-down.
31 December	USS CHANCELLORSVILLE (CG 62), along with the other U.S. and Japanese Maritime Self Defense Ships (JMSDF) ships in Yokosuka Harbor, rang in the New Year. Just prior to midnight, all the ships turned off all topside lights. At the stroke of midnight, the ships turn on all their lights, blow their horns and shine their searchlights in the air.

USS CHANCELLORSVILLE (CG 62)
COMMAND HISTORY

Historical Narrative For 2003

USS CHANCELLORSVILLE (CG 62) welcomed the New Year while pier-side at homeport at Fleet Activities Yokosuka, Japan. The third holiday leave period had commenced, allowing many Sailors to spend well-earned rest with their families.

On 7 January, OS1(SW) Timothy M. Johnson, CHANCELLORSVILLE's "2002 Sailor of the Year," was selected as the "2002 Commander, Carrier Group FIVE Sailor of the Year." This award recognized the outstanding contribution made by OS1(SW) Johnson and the model he set for other Sailors.

On 13 January the Holiday standdown concluded and the Sailors of USS CHANCELLORSVILLE (CG 62) were focused on preparing the ship for the critical eyes of the Board of Inspection and Survey. 14-17 January, the ship went to a nearby ammunition anchorage for ammunition transfer in preparation for the next underway period.

Returned to sea on 15 February, stopping in Tokyo wan to moor to a buoy. The evolution was a challenge to the shiphandling team and Deck personnel, but the infrequent evolution was carried out successfully. While underway in the Philippine Sea, the ship conducted another rare shiphandling evolution. After a rendezvous with USS OBRIEN (DD 975), both ships took turns towing the other.

Mooring to a buoy and towing are rare evolutions due to the high degree of coordination required between the shiphandlers and the Deck personnel. The evolutions are also rare because neither are rarely required, though the ship was made ready to handle such a contingency, should the need arise. In both cases, all hands involved learned a great deal about the capabilities of their ship and themselves. After these challenging Seamanship evolutions, USS CHANCELLORSVILLE (CG 62) conducted a Naval Fire Support Exercise near Okinawa before returning to homeport on 28 February.

On 5 March, the ship finalized preparations for its upcoming INSURV inspection by getting underway to rehears the underway demonstration phase of the coming inspection. Despite preparations, the inspection was postponed in order for the ship to carry out tasking from the Commander, SEVENTH Fleet. Underway on 6 March the ship transited to the Sea of Japan. While underway, the E-6, E-5, and E-4 advancement exams were

administered on board. Also during the underway the ship conducted underway replenishments with the USS SACREMENTO (AOE 1) on 17 and 22 March and with the USNS RAPPAHANNOK (T-AO 204) on 27 March. On 31 March, USS CHANCELLORSVILLE (CG 62) conducted a vertical replenishment with the USS VINCENNES (CG 47) to transfer personnel and supplies.

After returning to homeport on 7 April, the ship began a Drydocked Selected Restricted Availability (DSRA). The work began by securing much of the ship's systems and protecting components that would not need maintenance during the DSRA. On 10 April, the ship made a final transit to anchorage to transfer ammunition prior to entering the dry-dock.

Lieutenant Commander Angelo D. Burstion was welcomed aboard on 12 April and relieved Lieutenant Commander William J. Parker as the Executive Officer on 17 April. The ship bid farewell to Lieutenant Commander Parker who had served as the Executive Officer since November 2001.

After extensive preparations, the ship was moved to Dry Dock Five at Fleet Activities, Yokosuka, Japan, under the power of tugs and pusher boats operated by Commander, Fleet activities, Japan (CFAY), Port Operations on 28 April. The dry dock was drained after surveyors ensured that the 567-foot ship was positioned within six inches of center over the blocks on the dry dock floor. The process of taking a ship into dry dock requires precise calculations of the ships ballast to ensure stability as the ship settles on the block. The personnel from CFAY Port Operations and Ship repair Facility (SRF), Yokosuka, executed the day's events safely and efficiently.

During the DSRA, much of the crew was berthed in the Olympia Barge while two of the five-crew berthing spaces were completely overhauled. On 15 may, the crew assembled for the frocking of over 50 new, First, Second, and Third Class Petty Officers. On 21 May, Vice Admiral Robert F. Willard, Commander, US SEVENTH Fleet, addressed the crew assembled on the Olympia Barge. Admiral Willard personally thanked the crew for their continuing dependability for his most important taskings and presented the 2002 Commander, Surface Forces Pacific (COMNAVSURFPAC) Battle "E" award.

While in the dry dock, SRF completed the berthing space overhauls, a five year inspection of Number One Waste Heat Boiler, Controllable, Reversible Pitch Propeller (CRP) overhaul on both shafts, total repainting of the ship's hull, structural

repair work to the mast and fuel tanks, and over 600 other jobs. In all the DSRA included 11 ship alterations and was the most extensive DSRA in the history of the forward deployed Naval forces. Following this extensive work, the dry dock was flooded on 2 July and USS CHANCELLORSVILLE (CG 62) was moved to the Harbor Master Pier on 3 July. Following the move to Harbor Master pier, USS CHANCELLORSVILLE (CG 62) and the other USN and JMSDF ships in Yokosuka Harbor celebrated Independence Day with Full Dress Ship and an evening music and fireworks at CFAY.

The ship left port on 15 July and anchored for ammunition transfer until returning to Harbor Master pier on 18 July. On 21 July, the ship got underway for sea trials and to demonstrate underway operations for the Prospective Commanding Officer, Captain Jonathan E. Will.

After four days showing off the ship and crew's capabilities, the Change of Command Ceremony was held on the flight deck on the morning of 25 July. At the wishes of the Commanding Officer, only the ship's crew was in attendance for an emotional ceremony. At the conclusion of the ceremony, Captain Jonathan E. Will relieved Captain Thomas S. Kennedy as Commanding Officer, USS CHANCELLORSVILLE (CG 62). Following the ceremony, Captain Kennedy flew off the ship and Captain Will brought his ship back to homeport.

Friendship Day 2003 welcomed thousands of Japanese citizens onto Fleet Activities Yokosuka on 3 August. The day's events included tours of the USS CHANCELLORSVILLE (CG 62) and USS OBRIEN (DD 985). The events on the base and ship tours contributed to relations between the local Japanese population and the Sailors stationed in Yokosuka.

On 11 August the ship left port for Busan, South Korea. While in Busan, members of the crew participated in a community relations project by cleaning a local beach along with local volunteers. After the port call in Busan, the ship was again underway in the Sea of Japan in support of Counter Special Operations Forces Exercise (CSOFEX), a joint exercise with the South Korean Navy and U.S. Army. The exercise tested the interoperability between the U.S. Naval forces and the Korean forces. The exercise also included landings by US Army helicopters on USS CHANCELLORSVILLE (CG 62). The event was made more memorable because three junior officers from USS CHANCELLORSVILLE (CG 62) cross-decked to Korean ships during the exercise and three Korean Naval officers observed operations onboard during the exercise.

After the conclusion of CSOFEX on 19 August, the ship conducted an UNREP with USS SACRAMENTO (AOE 1) on 21 August. After a four-day transit, Sailors manned the rails as the ship enters port in Kagoshima, Japan. While in Kagoshima, Sailors participated in a community relations project at a local orphanage and the ship's baseball team played the Kagoshima International University Baseball Team. USS CHANCELLORSVILLE (CG 62) left Kagoshima on 28 August and returned to Yokosuka on 30 August.

After two days in port, the ship got underway on 2 September to anchorage for ammunition transfer, returning to port on 3 September. Over 100 Sailors' knowledge was tested during the E-6, E-5, and E-4 advancement exams held on 4, 11, and 18 September, respectively.

While inport, the newest Chief Petty Officers in the Navy were frocked in a ceremony on the flight deck on 16 September. With their families in attendance, MRC(SW) Zoilo S. DeArce, OSC(SW) Timothy M. Johnson, and GSMC(SW) Frank B. Marcos pinned on their anchors, wearing khaki uniforms for the first time in their Naval service.

On 22 September, the ship returned to sea with a full schedule of events before the revised date for the INSURV inspection now scheduled for 15 December. In the Okinawa OPAREA, the ship participated in testing of the Intra Battle Group Wireless Network while operating with the ESSEX Expeditionary Strike Group (ESG) 28-29 September. While en route to Hong Kong following ESG operations, the ship held a swim call in the South China Sea on 3 October.

USS CHANCELLORSVILLE (CG 62) anchored in Victoria Harbour, Hong Kong on 4 October. Special fenders were brought along the ship's starboard side to facilitate mooring the USS PORTSMOUTH (SSN 707), a Los Angeles class submarine, to USS CHANCELLORSVILLE (CG 62). After over two hours of attempting to find the proper placement of the submarine alongside USS CHANCELLORSVILLE (CG 62), the plan was aborted to prevent damage to the ship's hull from the submarine's fair water planes. The crew was disappointed that they could not support the submariners as they watched PORTSMOUTH return to sea.

USS CHANCELLORSVILLE (CG 62) returned to sea on 8 October following a widely enjoyed liberty port in Hong Kong, China. Off the coast of Okinawa, the ship conducted a live fire Close in Weapons System (CIWS) gunnery exercise. The CIWS successfully engaged and destroyed a drone pulled by a leer jet at over 300

knots. This exercise confirmed the ability of CIWS to destroy a high speed inbound target with small profile such as a jet or missile. On 11 October, the ship moored at White Beach, Okinawa, Japan and was again underway on the 12th after a brief stop for fuel and stores. While underway en route Yokosuka, the ship celebrated the Navy's 229th birthday of the U.S. Navy. The ship moored at fleet activities, Yokosuka, Japan on 14 October.

During its three days inport, the Navy Safety Center conducted a ship wide survey and the COMNAVSURFPAC Damage Control Officer conducted an assist visit to aid in preparations for INSURV. The ship returned to sea on 18 October en route Guam.

On the morning of 22 October, USS CHANCELLORSVILLE (CG 62) rendezvoused with PLA(N) ships SHENZEN and QINGHAI HU, a destroyer and oiler, respectively. While manning the rails, the ship led the PLA(N) ships into Apra Harbor and then stopped before the entrance to the inner harbor to allow the ships to proceed in, exchanging honors as each ship passed. That evening members of the crews of all three ships enjoyed a reception at the outrigger hotel in Tumon co-hosted by by Rear Adm. Xue Tianpei, Deputy Commander of the People's Republic of China's South Sea Fleet, and Rear Adm. Frederic R. Ruehe, Commander, U.S. Naval Forces, Japan

On 23 and 24 October, the ship hosted over 100 PLA(N) Sailors for topside ship tours. On those days, over 100 CHANCELLORSVILLE Sailors visited each of the PLA(N) ships. The visitors aboard CHANCELLORSVILLE enjoyed their tours and took many opportunities to pose photos alongside CHANCELLORSVILLE Sailors.

On 24 October, the final day of the ship visit, 35 CHANCELLORSVILLE Officers and Sailors enjoyed a farewell reception onboard the SHENZEN. On the morning of the 25th, all three ships got underway together and CHANCELLORSVILLE and SHENZEN conducted a PASSEX together before the three ships set off on course back to their respective homeports. During the PASSEX, the ships signaled maneuvers using visual flag hoist signals and bridge-to-bridge communications. CHANCELLORSVILLE returned to Yokosuka on 28 October.

Following another brief period in its homeport, the ship got underway on 1 November bound for Okinawa. The ship moored at White Beach, Okinawa, Japan on 3 November to load equipment and embark personnel in support of MISSILEX 04-1. On the morning of the 4th, the ship left White Beach to conduct final rehearsals with USS COWPENS and USS O'BRIEN.

The MISSELEX was completed successfully on 5 November when CHANCELLORSVILLE fired an SM-2 out of both forward and aft Vertical Launch System (VLS) Launchers which each intercepted inbound drone missiles. CHANCELLORSVILLE transferred the embarked personnel ashore via helicopter and equipment to COWPENS via small boat to expedite the transit to Singapore.

CHANCELLORSVILLE moored at Changi Naval Base, Singapore on the morning o 10 November as one of the showcase ships at the International Maritime Defense Exposition (IMDEX), Asia 2003. Also in company at Changi Naval Base were ships from the navies of France, South Korea, Thailand, China, Australia, India, Bangladesh, and the host nation.

Each of the ships was open to tours 11 through 13 November. In addition to hundreds of IMDEX participants who visited the ship daily, CHANCELLORSVILLE welcomed official visits from the navies of Russia, Singapore, and South Africa. The ship hosted an evening reception on 13 November on the flight deck. The crew converted the flight deck into an elegant setting for a reception that garnered praise from countless guests.

Departing Singapore on 14 November, CHANCELLORSVILLE proceeded towards Okinawa, Japan, mooring at White Beach on the morning of 21 November. While en route to Okinawa, new Petty Officers were frocked in a ceremony on the flight deck on 20 November. Following a brief stop in Okinawa for fuel and stores, the ship was underway later the same day and began a transit to Sasebo, Japan. CHANCELLORSVILLE moored for a brief stop in Sasebo, Japan on 22 November and after topping off on fuel and loading additional stores, the ship returned to sea on 23 November.

Thanksgiving was celebrated with a feast for the crew while underway in the Sea of Japan on 27 November. CHANCELLORSVILLE returned to port, mooring in Sasebo on 28 November to avoid a typhoon passing close by Kyushu in the Philippine Sea. While inport, the crew focused its efforts on the approaching INSURV inspection.

With the typhoon clear of CHANCELLORSVILLE's path to homeport, the ship returned to sea on 2 December en route Yokosuka, Japan and moored in Yokosuka on the morning of 4 December. Having spent 68 of the previous 74 days out of homeport the ship returned to Yokosuka with just 11 days remaining until the INSURV inspectors would arrive. INSURV is intended to be conducted every three to five years on each ship to ensure proper material

preservation and report to Congress whether the ship is combat ready. Over 100 months had passed since the last INSURV onboard CHANCELLORSVILLE.

INSURV rehearsals began inport on 10 December and the ship pu to sea to rehearse the underway demonstrations on 12 December, returning to port on the 13th. The ship welcomed the Board of Inspection and Survey aboard on 15 December and the INSURV inspection commenced. Throughout the day on 15 and 16 December, the crew toured the inspectors through every space on the ship and set up their equipment for the scrutiny of the inspectors. The ship got underway before sunrise on the morning of 17 December to conduct the underway demonstrations for INSURV. The inspectors closely observed two anchoring evolutions, closely inspecting the deck equipment, the anchoring windlasses, and the crew's adherence to established maintenance standards.

The demonstrations continued with a light off of the AFFF system, a full power demonstration of the engineering plant, an air warfare Detect-to-Engage (DTE) event, an undersea warfare demonstration, and countermeasure washdown. The ship returned to pier six late on the evening of the 17th, where she would stay for the duration of the coming holiday standdown. On 18 December, the INSURV board informed the ship that it had successfully passed the inspection.

On the afternoon of 19 December, the holiday standdown began. Many of the crew returned to the US to spend well-earned time with family and friends at the conclusion of a year of hard work and tremendous results. Throughout 2003, the crew of CHANCELLORSVILLE took on emergent taskings and continuously increasing demands as their role as Forward Deployed Sailors changed during a period in which the Navy itself redefined its role in the nation's defense.