DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
USS CURTS (FFG 38)
FLEET POST OFFICE
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA 96662-1493

IN REPLY REFER TO:

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From: Commanding Officer, USS CURTS (FFG 38)
To: Director of Naval History (OP 09BH), Washington Navy Yard, Washington, DC 20374-0571

Subj: COMMAND HISTORY USS CURTS (FFG 38), YEAR 1986 ~~(C)~~ 1986

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12D

1. In accordance with reference (a), the Command History of USS CURTS (FFG 38) is hereby submitted.

2. Calendar year 1986 began with USS CURTS at her homeport, Long Beach, CA. CURTS was participating in a restricted availability with USS PRAIRIE. The availability was completed on 15 January and CURTS sailed 16 January for the eastern Pacific for Antisubmarine Warfare Operations (ASWOPS) 86-2. CURTS partipated in operations until 24 January when heavy seas and inclement weather caused the operation to be terminated early. CURTS performed an underway replenishment (UNREP) on 24 January with HMCS PROVIDER and detached for transit to the Hawaiian Islands, arriving in Pearl Harbor, HI., on the twenty-seventh.

3. CURTS remained in Pearl Harbor for three days, departing on the first of February for AIREM-F/86P/SHAREM 63, an exercise which provided an arena for designers to compare the AN/SQQ-89 ASW system to the AN/SQR-18A Towed Array and LAMPS MK I aircraft when operated against a known target. The AN/SQR-19 Towed Array gained and held contact on the target of interest in four of the five structured runs, which triggered the LAMPS MK III to localize the target and conduct simulated attacks, several of which were later evaluated during reconstruction as kills. The CURTS/HSL 43 Det 2 Team was so effective that the submarine participating in the exercise was unable to break contact and asked the OTC of the exercise to relax the restrictions the submarine was tasked to operate under. CURTS departed the AREM/SHAREM OPAREA 4 February, arriving in Long Beach, CA, on the tenth. From 10-28 February, CURTS participated in a SIMA availability. ENS Wayne Lawrence relieved LT Francis "Roy" Beadle as Electronic Readiness Officer. OS2 Ponzo was the senior Sailor of the Month and DS3 Nelson was the junior Sailor of the Month.

4. During March of 1986, CURTS spent most of her time in-port at Long Beach, with the exception of the periods 3-6 March and 25-27 March. During the first underway period, CURTS provided deck services for HSL 43 Deck Landing Qualifications (DLQ's). During the second period, CURTS conducted operational tests for the AN/SQQ-89(V-2) System and the SIMAS Environmental Predictions Program. GSE2 Caple was selected as the senior Sailor of the Month.

5. On 1 April 86, CURTS departed Long Beach for the eastern Pacific to participate in ASWOPS 86-3 which concluded 17 April. CURTS conducted an UNREP with the USNS KAWISHIWI on the nineth. On the seventeenth, CURTS accompanied the ships of Destroyer Squadron Three One to Vancouver, B.C., for a three day port visit. CURTS departed Vancouver 22 April for Long Beach, arriving 26 April. From 28 April until 3

May, CURTS participated in Mobile Team Training (MTT) Phase I for gas turbines. ENS Greg Anderson relieved LT Rick Bernal as Ordnance Officer 28 April. OS2 Gorecki was selected as Sailor of the Month and as Sailor of the Quarter.

6. CURTS remained in-port 3-12 May. The ship then got underway for Combat Systems Readiness Testing through the sixteenth. Two days later, CURTS was in transit for ASWOPS 86-4 in the eastern Pacific and remained as part of that operation until 3 June. MS2 Monaghan was selected as Sailor of the Month.

7. After ASWOPS 86-4 concluded, CURTS joined DESRON 31 in a port visit to Portland, Oregon for the Portland Rose Festival. The ship docked in Astoria, Oregon on the Columbia River and welcomed aboard 41 passengers for the trip up-river to Portland. From 7 June until 11 June, CURTS played host to over 1500 visitors, providing tours on a daily basis. On 11 June, CURTS sailed for Monterey, CA, again taking on passengers (23) for debarkation in Astoria. The ship arrived in Monterey on 12 June. During the Monterey port visit, the ship was visited by over 200 guests including personnel attending the Naval Post Graduate School and the Fleet Numerical Ocean Center. Wardroom personnel returned the visits, touring both shore facilities. CURTS departed Monterey 15 June, arriving in Long Beach on the seventeenth. LT Steve Fulton relieved LT Stone Tweten as ASW Officer 9 June. LT Kevin Carey relieved LCDR John Woodbury as Combat Systems Officer on 19 June. GSM2 Ferguson was selected as senior Sailor of the Month. HTFN Marsh was selected as junior Sailor of the Month.

8. On 7 July 86, CURTS began her third Intermediate Maintenance Availability (IMAV 3). During this period, CURTS completed a 3M Assist Visit (7-11 July), an Aviation Assist Visit (8 July), an Aeronautical Ships Installation Representative visit (21 July), an Aviation Readiness Evaluation (22 July) and an SSDG Ship Check (23 July). The ship was underway on 30 July to conduct engineering casualty control drills. During the month of July, the departmental awards were announced. CURTS won her second awards in Electronic Warfare and Supply excellence and her first awards in ASW, Missile, Gun, CIC and Damage Control excellence. CURTS was also the runner-up for the COMNAVSURFPAC ASW "A" Award for the Pacific Fleet. EN2 Ringer was selected as Sailor of the Month.

9. CURTS returned to port 1 August. The ship was underway again from 4-8 August to conduct MTT Phase II for gas turbines. CURTS was in-port Long Beach from 8-14 August, getting underway on the fourteenth for a torpedo firing exercise on the Southern California Acoustic Range (SOAR). Upon completion of the torpedo firing, CURTS joined DESRON 31 for COMTHIRDFLT Contingency Operations. During this operation, CURTS became the first FFG in the Pacific Fleet to embark two SH-60B LAMPS MK III aircraft, demonstrating that 24 hour continuous operations from the deck of an FFG class ship is feasible. The Contingency Operations were terminated on the twenty-seventh and CURTS arrived in Esquimalt, B.C., on the twenty-eighth for fuel. After fueling, CURTS continued on to Seattle, Washington where she remained in-port from 28 August until 9 September. During her Seattle in-port period, CURTS provided tours for visitors, playing host to over 300 guests. LT Stuart Markey relieved LCDR Harry Marks as Engineer Officer on 10 August. ENS James Raymond relieved LT Douglas Miller as Communications Officer on 13 August. EW1 Quimayousie was selected as the senior Sailor of the Month and OS3 Sims was selected as the junior Sailor of the Month.

10. On 9 September, CURTS was underway, stopping off in Esquimalt for fuel while enroute to an oparea off the coast of Cape Flattery. Upon arrival, CURTS participated in CNO Project 1214, involving the use of fixed passive and active acoustic arrays for the

detection of subsurface contacts. On 16 September, CURTS again stopped off in Esquimalt for fuel, while enroute to the Carr Inlet Ship Silencing/Radiated Noise Monitoring (SSRNM) Range for a day of testing. Upon completion of the day of testing, CURTS joined DESRON 31 at the Nanoose Torpedo Testing Range, Nanoose, B.C., for a tropedo firing exercise. In addition to two MK 46 Mod 5 torpedos, a MK 50 ptototype torpedo was fired from CURTS, making her the second FFG to fire a tube launched MK 50 torpedo. On 19 September, CURTS returned to Esquimalt for a port visit, remaining inport until 29 September. On the twenty-ninth, CURTS was underway for ASWOPS 86-5. Ens Alex Kwok relieved Lt Daniel Smith as Disbursing Officer 23 September. SN Morales was selected as the Sailor of the Month.

11. CURTS reported on station 2 October after completing an UNREP with the USS WICHITA. A low pressure cell moved into the area on the third, forcing CURTS and the rest of DESRON 31 to discontinue operations to evade high winds and seas. Operations were resumed on the trailing edge of the storm front on the sixth. On 9 October, CURTS performed an UNREP with USS WILLAVETTE. Operations were resumed after the UNREP and continued until 15 October. CURTS was detached and arrived in Long Beach on 18 October. CURTS sucessfully completed a Training and Readiness Evaluation on 27 October. STG2 Johnston was selected as the senior Sailor of the Month and HT3 Manks was selected as junior Sailor of the Month.

12. On 1 November, CURTS got underway for San Diego to participate in a Dependent's Day Cruise, with 76 dependents and guests participating. For the rest of the month, CURTS participated in Interim Refresher Training (REFTRA), getting underway four times: 3-8 Nov, 12-15 Nov, 19 Nov, and 24-26 Nov. During REFTRA, CURTS demonstrated her proficiency in launching missiles, firing her 76mm gun, tracking air, surface and subsurface contacts, lauching and recovering her aircraft, and combating simulated fires and flooding. CURTS conducted three anchorings, six piloting exercises and several navigation exercises. CURTS arrived in Long Beach on the evening of the twenty-sixth of Navember.

13. On 1 December, CURTS conducted engineering casualty control drills underway, returning 5 December to host a high level training delegation from the People's Republic of China Navy for the Secretary of the Navy and COMCRUDESGRU THREE. During their visit, the Chinese delegation was shown damage control training techniques, engineering casualty control procedures and provided tours of the ship's spaces. The ship returned to port the same day. On 15 December, CURTS particiapted in the CNO's Rolling Airframe Missile Progect, providing radar tracking sevices. CURTS returned to port 16 December and degan a holiday leave/upkeep period which continued through the end of the year. On 19 December, CURTS hosted a delegation from the French Navy. Towed array tactices and the AN/SQQ-89(V-2) System installation wre discussed with presentations provided by the Commander, Destroyer Squadron 31 and the commanding officer of CURTS, followed by tours of the ship's CIC and Sonar spaces and a demonstration of the SQQ-89 System's capabilities. Lt David Yoshihara relieved Lt Marc Blaydoe as Ship Control Officer on 14 December. Ens Andre Duval relieved Lt Patrick O'Donnell as Combat Information Center Officer on 20 December. EM2 Erskine was selected as senior Sailor of the Month and SN L. Hamilton was selected as the junior Sailor of the Month. Navy Achievment Medals were presented to PN2 Minimo, QM2 Waters and EN2 Tomkins.

T. A. FRENCH