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DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

USS COLUMBUS (SSN 762)
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From: Commanding Officer, USS COLUMBUS (SSN 762)
To: Director of Naval History (OP-09BH), Washington Navy Yard,
Washington, DC 20374-0571

Subj: COMMAND HISTORY

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12E

Encl: (1) Command Composition and Organization
(2) Chronology
(3) Copy of the Personal For Message from Commander,
Submarine Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet of 17 Mar 95
(4) Copy of the Personal For Message from Commander,
Submarine Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet of 3 May 95
(5) Copy of the article from "THE HONOLULU ADVERTISER" of 17
Mar 95
(6) Copy of the letter from the Commander in Chief, U.S.
Pacific Fleet of 20 Mar 95
(7) Copy of the letter from the Secretary of the Navy of
23 Mar 95
(8) Copy of the article from "THE PATROL" of 31 Mar 95
(9) Copy of the article from "THE PATROL" of 12 May 95
(10) Copy of the article from "THE PATROL" of 26 May 95
(11) Copy of the Personal For Message from Commander,
Submarine Squadron SEVEN of 6 Sep 95
(12) Copy of the article from "THE PATROL" of 15 Sep 95
(13) Copy of the article from "THE PATROL" of 27 Oct 95
(14) Copy of the article from "THE PATROL" of 10 Nov 95
(15) Copy of the message concerning the awarding of the
CINCPACFLT Golden Anchor Award of 29 Dec 95

1. Per reference (a), enclosures (1) through (15) are submitted.

DR SigG
D. R. SIGG

USS COLUMBUS (SSN 762)
COMMAND HISTORY FOR 1995

1. Command Composition and Organization.

The USS COLUMBUS (SSN 762) is the fifty first ship of the Los Angeles Class, and the twelfth of the improved version. With her stealth, endurance and agility, COLUMBUS can be used in roles and missions to meet the challenges of the ever changing global geopolitical climate. USS COLUMBUS has the ability to arrive on station quickly, stay for an extended period of time and carry out her mission whether it be antisubmarine warfare, deployment of special forces, mine laying, a precision strike land attack, or simply by her perceived presence, be a deterrent while still remaining undetected. Homeported in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, she is under the cognizance of Submarine Squadron SEVEN and is commanded by CDR Daniel R. Sigg. LCDR Russell T. Janicke-Executive Officer, LCDR Joseph Wiegand-Navigation/Operations Officer, LCDR Kevin G. Mooney-Engineer, LT Steven M. Benke-Weapons Officer, LTJG Lee P. Sisco-Supply Officer, and QMCS(SS) Richard S. Ford-Chief of the Boat are responsible for maintaining the ship at its maximum state of readiness at all times.

CHRONOLOGY TO 1995
USS COLUMBUS (SSN 762)

2. CHRONOLOGY.

<u>DATE</u>	<u>EVENT</u>
January	Local at-sea operations Operational Reactor Safeguards Examination
February	Upkeep
March	CINCPACFLT Tour Secretary of the Navy VIP Cruise
April	Logistics Readiness Evaluation Navigation Evaluation Congressman Abercrombie VIP Tour
May	Local at-sea operations
June	Tactical Readiness Evaluation
July	Upkeep Navy Recruiting commercial filmed onboard using COLUMBUS sailors
August	Operational Reactor Safeguards Examination
September	National Security Advisor White House Press Secretary VIP tour Admiral Faleyev, Russian Federation Navy VIP Tour Congressman Regula VIP Tour Pre-Overseas Movement Upkeep Crew Training at Naval Submarine Training Center Pacific
October	Pre-Overseas Movement Upkeep Crew Training at Naval Submarine Training Center Pacific
November	Pre-Overseas Movement Certification Western Pacific Deployment
December	Western Pacific Deployment Port call - Yokosuka, Japan

NARRATIVE TO 1995
USS COLUMBUS (SSN 762)

3. NARRATIVE.

COLUMBUS started 1995 on a positive note by achieving the highest grade possible (EXCELLENT) on its Operational Reactor Safeguards Examination (ORSE) after a three week at-sea ORSE workup during the month of January. Following a two day ship's holiday, the ship began a month long upkeep at the Intermediate Maintenance Facility Pearl Harbor which was completed during the first week of March.

On March 8, Admiral Zlatoper, Commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet toured the ship and spoke with several COLUMBUS crewmembers. On March 16, Secretary of the Navy, John H. Dalton, his wife Margaret and several members from the local media got underway for a 6 hour VIP cruise onboard COLUMBUS. While onboard, he toured the torpedo room, control, sonar and engineering spaces. He also observed a battlestations strike mission supported by special forces which highlighted the versatility and capabilities of the modern SSN. The Secretary and his wife enjoyed a VIP luncheon with the crew in the crew's mess where they discussed issues that concerned the crewmembers. Just before the Secretary left, he talked to the entire crew on the LMC where he expressed "what a pleasure it was to have been to sea onboard a real submarine with a real group of professionals and that the trip brought back many fond memories."

During the first week of April, the ship underwent a Logistics Readiness Evaluation (LRE) where the overall readiness of the Supply Department was assessed. The ship again attained superior results by receiving an EXCELLENT and achieved the highest grades of any submarine in the Pacific Fleet for 1995. During local at-sea operation, the ship also underwent a Navigation Evaluation where the ship also received superior results.

Hawaii Congressman Neil Abercrombie visited the COLUMBUS the first week of May and spent an hour and a half touring the torpedo room, control, sonar, radio and the galley. He was able to observe the simulated operations as they would appear had the ship been underway. The Congressman had many questions about the submarines capabilities and in particular the Tomahawk Land Attack Missile. He remarked several times on the noticeable teamwork required in conducting all aspects of submarine operations and that he was impressed by the ship's crew. The ship conducted local at-sea operations and training for the remainder of May in preparation for an upcoming Tactical Readiness Evaluation in June.

During the first week of June, the ship underwent its first Tactical Readiness Evaluation (TRE) where the ship was evaluated in several areas including: Damage Control, Basic Submarine Knowledge, Navigation, Strike Planning and Execution, Anti-Submarine Warfare, Anti-Surface Warfare, Mine Warfare and Special Forces Insertion, Search and Rescue. After a challenging six day inspection, the ship received an EXCELLENT in several key areas with superior results overall.

The month of July consisted of an upkeep with the Intermediate Maintenance Facility Pearl Harbor and was also highlighted by the filming of a Navy Recruiting Commercial onboard COLUMBUS in which seven sailors from the COLUMBUS were used as actors.

The ship conducted local at-sea operations and training for the majority of August in preparation for its Operational Reactor Safeguards Examination (ORSE). During the third week of August, COLUMBUS underwent its second ORSE in 1995 and received its second EXCELLENT in a row; a rarely seen achievement.

On September 1, Anthony Lake, President Clinton's National Security Advisor (NSA), and Mike McCurry, White House Press Secretary, were given an extensive tour onboard COLUMBUS. RADM Jon M. Barr, COMSUBPAC, and CAPT Bruce Englehardt, COMSUBRON SEVEN, accompanied the tour group. The 2.5 hour tour demonstrated the many missions that the COLUMBUS is able to perform. The following day, ADM Oleg Mikahailovich Faleyev, Deputy Chief of Staff, Pacific Fleet, Russian Federation Navy was also given a VIP tour of COLUMBUS. The historic tour gave ADM Faleyev a general overview of the capabilities of a modern 688-I SSN. ADM Faleyev was able to interact with several crewmembers and was extremely impressed with the professionalism displayed. He was also interested in their technical background, the responsibilities each had and how long they had been in the Navy. The tour concluded with ADM Faleyev signing the ship's guest book in Cyrillic which was then translated by his interpreter to say "Thank you for my visit. Outstanding ship, sharp petty officers. Left a great, lasting impression!". Later during the same day, Congressman Regula from Ohio visited the ship. Mr. Regula spent approximately one hour onboard COLUMBUS touring the control room, torpedo room, sonar, crews berthing, mess decks, and topside. At the conclusion of the tour he was presented with a ship's plaque, photo and a ball cap. The remainder of September was spent receiving specialized training at the Naval Submarine Training Center Pacific to prepare the crew for its upcoming Western Pacific deployment and the start of the Pre-Overseas Movement Upkeep.

Throughout the month of October, the ship continued with the Pre-Overseas Movement Upkeep and Specialized Training at the Naval Submarine Training Center Pacific. The ship completed its cycle in mid-November at which point the loadout period commenced. For a one week period, the ship loaded all necessary provisions and supplies it would need for its upcoming Pre-Overseas Movement Certification (POMCERT) and Western Pacific Deployment. During the third week of November, the ship was evaluated in several areas to certify whether or not it was ready to be deployed for a six month or greater period. The ship received superior results overall and was certified to deploy to the Western Pacific. At 1000 on November 28, 1995, 2 years and 4 months after being commissioned, the COLUMBUS was underway from Pearl Harbor, Hawaii for her maiden deployment to the Western Pacific.

On December 9th COLUMBUS made her first of several port calls of the deployment when she pulled into Yokosuka, Japan. The crew enjoyed 5 days of liberty and then went back to work to prepare COLUMBUS for her first operation. The COLUMBUS left Yokosuka on

the 16th and headed towards her first operation. The COLUMBUS spent the remainder of 1995 at sea where the Holiday Season was celebrated with decorations, songs, and special meals.

Year end saw COLUMBUS receive the coveted CINCPACFLT Golden Anchor Award for Pacific Fleet Submarine retention, the Red Engineering "E" for excellence in engineering and the Yellow Medical "M".