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DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
USS CHARLOTTE (SSN 766)
FPO AP 96662-2422

DECLASSIFIED

5750
Ser 001/001
1 Feb 05

~~SECRET~~ T--Unclassified upon removal of enclosures (1) and (3)

From: Commanding Officer, USS CHARLOTTE (SSN 766)
To: Director, Naval Historical Center, Washington Navy Yard, 805
Kidder Breese SE, Washington, D.C. 20374-5060

Subj: COMMAND HISTORY FOR THE PERIOD 1 JANUARY 2004 TO 31 DECEMBER
2004

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12G

Encl: (1) Command History (U)
(2) Biography and Photograph of the Commanding Officer
(3) 3.5" Floppy Disk (U)

1. (U) Per reference (a), enclosures (1) through (3) are forwarded.


D. E. CARPENTER

DECLASSIFIED BY: CNO (N09N2)
OPNAVINST 5513.16 SERIES
DATE: 9 NOV 2005

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COMMAND HISTORY

I. (U) Command Composition and Organization

USS CHARLOTTE (SSN 766), under the command of Commander Dennis E. Carpenter, is assigned to Submarine Squadron One. Its primary missions are hunting down and destroying enemy submarines and surface ships and conducting tactical missile strikes against shore targets.

II. (S) Chronology 2004

01JAN04 Inport - Pearl Harbor, Y-3B, Continue holiday stand down
05JAN04 Inport - Pearl Harbor, Y-3B, Conclude holiday stand down
13JAN04 Underway - Commanding Officer Discretionary Time
16JAN04 Personnel transfer, Pearl Harbor
22JAN04 Inport - Pearl Harbor, Y-2
26JAN04 Underway - Berth shift, moor Westloch, W-5, weapons onload
27JAN04 Underway - Commence Supply Management Inspection
30JAN04 Personnel transfer, Commence PCO Operations
02FEB04 Inport - Pearl Harbor, S-9
03FEB04 Underway - Continue PCO Operations, Completed unassisted landings, S-9
14FEB04 Personnel transfer, Pearl Harbor
17FEB04 Inport - Pearl Harbor, Y-2, Commence POM II Upkeep
31MAR04 Fast Cruise
05APR04 Underway - Berth shift, moor Westloch, W-5, weapons onload
08APR04 Underway - Commence Eastern Pacific deployment, transit to San Diego, CA
13APR04 Inport - San Diego, Pier Mike North
14APR04 Underway - SUBRON ONE Chief of Staff as guest, Commenced operations with USS BELLEAU WOOD (LHA 3), USS COMSTOCK (LSD 45), USS DENVER (LPD 9), USS MOBILE BAY (CG 53), USS PREBLE (DDG 88), USS HOPPER (DDG 70)
22APR04 Personnel transfer, San Diego
24APR04 Personnel transfer, San Diego
26APR04 Inport - San Diego, Pier Mike North
27APR04 Underway
29APR04 Inport - San Diego, Pier Mike North
11MAY04 Underway
12MAY04 Personnel transfer, San Diego, COMSUBRON ONE as guest, Commence POMCERT
17MAY04 Inport - San Diego, Pier Mike North, Depart COMSUBRON ONE, Conclude POMCERT, transit to Pearl Harbor
24MAY04 Inport - Pearl Harbor, Westloch, W-5, berth shift, moor Y-3A
15JUN04 Fast Cruise
16JUN04 Underway - COMSUBRON ONE and COMSPECWARGRUTHREE as guests, Commence Host-ASDS Combined Certification, Embark SDV 1/ASDS Platoon
19JUN04 Inport - Pearl Harbor, S-21A

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22JUN04 Underway - Continue Host-ASDS Combined Certification
24JUN04 Personnel transfer, Pearl Harbor
27JUN04 Inport - Pearl Harbor, Y-2, Commence Voyage Repair
06JUL04 Underway - Commence RIMPAC 2004
23JUL04 Inport - Pearl Harbor, Y-3A
03AUG04 Underway - Commence ASDS high-speed trials
05AUG04 Inport - Pearl Harbor, Westloch, W-5, weapons onload
06AUG04 Underway - Berth shift, moor, S-9
09AUG04 Underway - Berth shift, moor Westloch, W-5; Berth shift,
moor, S9
25AUG04 Underway - Commence Western Pacific deployment, transit to
Yokosuka, JA
03SEP04 Inport - Yokosuka, JA, Berth 10
07SEP04 Underway - Transit to Guam
11SEP04 Inport - Apra Harbor, Guam, Wharf A, weapons onload
14SEP04 Underway
16SEP04 Personnel transfer, Guam
20SEP04 Inport - Guam, Wharf A
21SEP04 Underway
27SEP04 Personnel transfer, Guam
01OCT04 Personnel transfer, Sasebo, JA; Commence Operations
27OCT04 Inport - Yokosuka, JA, Berth 10; Underway, Continue
Operations
13NOV04 Inport - Guam, Wharf B
16NOV04 Underway
23NOV04 Personnel transfer, Okinawa, JA; Continue Operations
07DEC04 Inport - Changi Naval Base, Singapore, Pier Oscar 5,
Conclude Operations, Commence quality of life liberty port
13DEC04 Underway - Transit to Yokosuka; Commence MODLOC with
ABRAHAM LINCOLN STRIKE GROUP
21DEC04 Inport - Yokosuka, JA, Berth 11
30DEC04 Underway - Transit to Guam

III. (S) Narrative

The year 2004 kicked off with CHARLOTTE moored in her homeport of Pearl Harbor, Hawaii during holiday stand down. In mid-January, the unit went underway for Commanding Officer Discretionary Time. The Command utilized this time to improve crew qualifications and watchstanding proficiency.

Soon after CHARLOTTE returned to homeport, she berth shifted to Westloch to load weapons in anticipation of the upcoming Prospective Commanding Officers Operations (PCO OPS). CHARLOTTE then went underway in support of PCO OPS.

Following PCO OPS, CHARLOTTE commenced her Pre-Overseas Movement (POM) II Upkeep period, the last chance for the crew to place their submarine in the best possible material condition in preparation for her upcoming Western Pacific Deployment.

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CHARLOTTE completed POM II, and in early April moved to Westloch to on-load weapons for the deployment. After the successful weapons load, CHARLOTTE deployed to the Eastern Pacific.

The ship arrived in San Diego on 13 April 2004, and wasted no time, getting underway the very next day in support of Operations with EXPEDITIONARY STRIKE GROUP THREE. CHARLOTTE participated in numerous exercises along with the USS BELLEAU WOOD (LHA 3), USS COMSTOCK (LSD 45), USS DENVER (LPD 9), USS MOBILE BAY (CG 53), USS PREBLE (DDG 88), and USS HOPPER (DDG 70). Since the concept of the Expeditionary Strike Group was still relatively new, the exercises provided training not only for the submarine and her crew, but also the surface combatants as well, who had never participated in those operations before.

After completing the group exercises, CHARLOTTE returned to San Diego in order to embark COMSUBRON ONE in support of Pre-Overseas Movement Certification (POMCERT). The Pre-Overseas Movement Certification is the last in a long line of assessments required to certify a submarine to deploy. CHARLOTTE successfully passed her POMCERT, and she transited home to Pearl Harbor to complete her Eastern Pacific deployment.

Immediately following a brief inport period, CHARLOTTE got underway with COMSUBRON ONE and COMSPECWARGRUTHREE in support of Host-Advanced Seal Delivery System (ASDS) Combined Certification. The inspection certifies that the team, made up of the host submarine and the ASDS, is ready to deploy as one unit. The officers and crew of the combined unit, along with the sailors of Seal Delivery Vehicle ONE, performed several exciting and adventurous evolutions, testing the capability of the submarine as a Special Forces platform.

CHARLOTTE returned to homeport in late June for a short voyage repair period. Unfortunately, due to another submarine's inability to get underway due to her poor material condition, CHARLOTTE was tasked to support RIMPAC 2004. The multi-national, multi-platform exercise took two full years to plan, and featured over thirty combatants from six different nations. The exercise provided valuable training for the ship's upcoming Western Pacific deployment, along with an exciting photo opportunity.

Prior to deployment, CHARLOTTE made one additional underway to test the high speed limits of the mated ASDS unit. Then, on August 25, 2004 the Officers and crew of the CHARLOTTE said a last goodbye to their loved ones over a pier side lunch, as the ship set sail that afternoon for her Western Pacific deployment.

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Yokosuka, Japan was the first stop on what proved to be a challenging and rewarding deployment to Seventh Fleet. Between completing three missions vital to National Security, CHARLOTTE stopped several times in Apra Harbor, Guam, and transferred personnel in both Sasebo and Okinawa, Japan.

In early December, the Officers and Crew of the USS CHARLOTTE arrived in Singapore for their first and only quality of life port visit. CHARLOTTE sailors enjoyed some of the best liberty in the Seventh Fleet.

After Singapore, the Command took advantage of the opportunity to participate in a group exercise with the ABRAHAM LINCOLN STRIKE GROUP. CHARLOTTE raised multiple masts and antennas at periscope depth, snorkeled, and even surfaced at pre-designated waypoints, all with the goal of improving the Strike Group's ability to detect and prosecute enemy submarines. On the last day of the exercise, CHARLOTTE "took off the gloves," and was given free reign to simulate her approach and attack tactics on the Strike Group, and scored simulated hits on the major combatants, including the carrier herself.

CHARLOTTE returned to Yokosuka for a brief holiday port visit. After Christmas in Yokosuka, CHARLOTTE returned to sea enroute Guam on December 30th. Celebrating New Years Day underway, the men of the USS CHARLOTTE congratulated each other upon the successful completion of another fine year in the history of their great ship.

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