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DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
COMMANDING OFFICER
USS COLUMBIA (SSN 771)
FPO AP 96662-2427

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From: Commanding Officer, USS COLUMBIA (SSN 771)
To: Director, Naval Historical Center
Subj: USS COLUMBIA (SSN 771) COMMAND HISTORY - 2001 (U)
Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12G
Encl: (1) Command History (U)
(2) Commanding Officer Biography (U)
(3) Commanding Officer Photograph (U)
(4) Floppy Disk (U)

1. (U) Per reference (a), enclosures (1) through (4) are submitted.

J. R. MOSIER, JR.
Acting

DECLASSIFIED BY: CNO (N0912)
OPNAVINST 5513.16 SERIES
DATE: 9 Nov 2005

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USS COLUMBIA (SSN 771) Command History - 2001 (U)

1. (U) Command Composition and Organization.

a. (U) USS COLUMBIA (SSN 771) (UIC 21817) is an improved Los Angeles (SSN 688) class fast attack nuclear submarine. USS COLUMBIA (SSN 771) is assigned to the Submarine Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet with Commander, Submarine Squadron THREE as ISIC. USS COLUMBIA (SSN 771) is a multi-mission capable platform. Missions include tomahawk strike, undersea warfare (USW), anti-surface warfare (SUW), special forces operations, and intelligence collection. In accordance with the U. S. Navy and Submarine Force Standard Organization and Regulation Manuals (SORM), USS COLUMBIA (SSN 771) is organized with the following departments: Navigation/Operations, Engineering, Combat Systems, and Supply. Her Commanding Officers for 2001 were Commander William M. Drake, USN and Commander Duane R. Ashton, USN. USS COLUMBIA (SSN 771) is home ported in Pearl Harbor, HI.

2. (U) Chronology for 2001.

01 - 16 Jan	Inport Pearl Harbor, Hawaii for upkeep
16 - 29 Jan	Underway for Fleet Exercise in Southern California Operating Areas
29 Jan - 01 Feb	Inport San Diego, California for force protection exercise
01 - 11 Feb	Underway in Southern California Operating Areas conducting Joint Task Force Exercise
11 - 15 Feb	Inport San Diego, California
15 - 22 Feb	Underway conducting transit from San Diego, CA to Pearl Harbor, HI
22 Feb - 21 Mar	Inport Pearl Harbor, HI for voyage repairs and loadout
21 Mar - 11 Apr	Underway for WESTPAC 2001 conducting independent transit to Perth/Fremantle, Western Australia
11 - 20 Apr	Inport HMAS Stirling, Perth/Fremantle, Western Australia
20 Apr - 11 May	Underway for Battle Group transit to Bahrain
11 - 15 May	Inport Bahrain
15 May - 07 Jun	Underway for Special Operations
07 - 09 Jun	Inport Bahrain
9 - 25 Jun	Underway conducting independent transit to Singapore
25 - 30 Jun	Inport Singapore
30 Jun - 07 Jul	Underway conducting independent transit to Guam

07 - 17 Jul Inport Guam for upkeep

17 - 20 Jul Underway conducting independent transit to Sasebo, Japan

20 Jul Personnel Transfer, Sasebo, Japan

20 - 23 Jul Underway conducting training in the Sea of Japan

23 Jul Personnel Transfer, Sasebo, Japan

23 Jul - 30 Aug Underway for Special Operations and transit to Yokosuka, Japan

30 Aug - 03 Sept Inport Yokosuka, Japan

03 - 12 Sept Underway for transit from Yokosuka, Japan to Pearl Harbor, HI

12 - 13 Sept Conducting Operational Reactor Safeguards Examination in Hawaiian Operating Areas

13 Sept - 22 Oct Inport Pearl Harbor, HI for standown and voyage repairs

22 - 26 Oct Underway in Hawaiian Operating Areas conducting training

26 Oct - 31 Dec Inport Pearl Harbor, HI conducting upkeep. On 27 Nov 2001 CDR D.R. ASHTON relieved CDR W.M. DRAKE as Commanding Officer USS COLUMBIA (SSN-771).

3. (C) Narrative.

01 - 16 Jan Upkeep was very successful. Great support was received from all outside activities.

16 - 29 Jan Completion of Fleet Exercise was excellent preparation for our deployment with the CONSTELLATION Battle Group.

29 Jan - 01 Feb Force protection exercise was very beneficial training for the crew.

01 - 11 Feb Joint Task Force Exercise was a great opportunity to further train the crew in carrier battle group operations.

11 - 15 Feb Liberty was enjoyed by the entire crew.

15 - 22 Feb Our final underway prior to deployment was used to fine tune our readiness.

22 Feb - 21 Mar Final repairs were conducted and the crew was able to spend much time with their families and friends.

21 Mar - 11 Apr Transit to Perth, Australia was an excellent time to continue to train and to initiate the crew as "Golden Shellbacks".

11 - 20 Apr Exceptional liberty in Western Australia.

20 Apr - 11 May The crew was excited to begin our transit to the Arabian Gulf and Fifth Fleet with the CONSTELLATION Battle Group. Received Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal for operations in the Arabian Gulf.

11 - 15 May The crew was able to rest and relax in Bahrain.

15 May - 07 Jun Underway for Special Operations

9 - 25 Jun After much success with the Battle Group, we begin our transit back to Seventh Fleet.

25 - 30 Jun The crew enjoyed great liberty and hospitality in Singapore.

30 Jun - 07 Jul After an outstanding liberty call we were on our way to Guam for upkeep.

07 - 17 Jul The submarine tender offered great support and we had a terrific upkeep.

17 - 20 Jul Transit to Sasebo, Japan went smoothly.

20 - 23 Jul Underway conducting training in the Sea of Japan

23 Jul - 30 Aug Underway for Special Operations and transit to Yokosuka, Japan

30 Aug - 03 Sept Inport Yokosuka, Japan

03 - 12 Sept The crew was extremely excited about our successful deployment. They eagerly await return to their friends and family in Hawaii.

12 - 13 Sept Our Operational Reactor Safeguards Examination went very well. In many categories we exceeded fleet standards.

13 Sept - 22 Oct Post-deployment standdown was much anticipated and well deserved.

22 - 26 Oct Our first post-deployment underway was a great opportunity to allow our prospective commanding officer to observe the abilities of COLUMBIA.

26 Oct - 31 Dec Inport Pearl Harbor, HI conducting upkeep. On 27 Nov 2001 CDR D.R. ASHTON relieved CDR W.M. DRAKE as Commanding Officer USS COLUMBIA (SSN-771). The crew enjoyed a much deserved holiday standdown.