



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

COMMANDING OFFICER
USS DECATUR (DDG 73)
FPO AP 96663-1290

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DDG 73 Ser/040 (damaged)
01 Mar 02

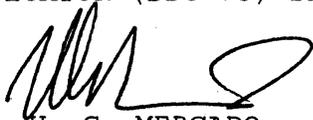
From: Commanding Officer, USS DECATUR (DDG 73)
To: Director of Naval History (N09BH), Naval Historical Center

Subj: COMMAND HISTORY (OPNAV Report 5750-01)

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12G

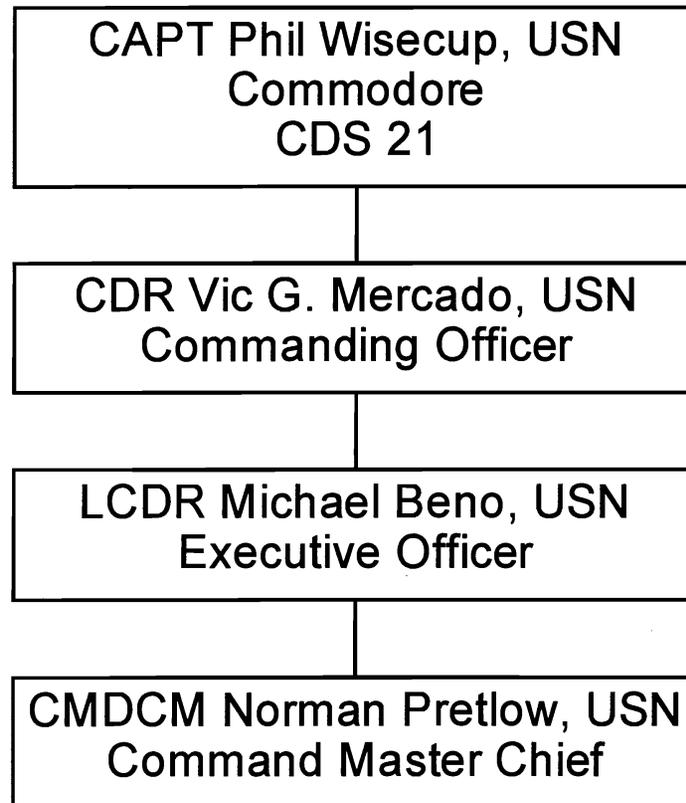
- Encl: (1) USS DECATUR (DDG 73) Command Composition and Organization
(2) USS DECATUR (DDG 73) Command Chronology/Historical Narrative
(3) Biography and photograph of Commanding Officer, Executive Officer, and Command Master Chief
(4) Command Philosophy
(5) USS DECATUR (DDG 73) Photograph

1. Enclosures (1) through (5) are forwarded per reference (a) to be included in USS DECATUR (DDG 73) ship's history file.


V. G. MERCADO

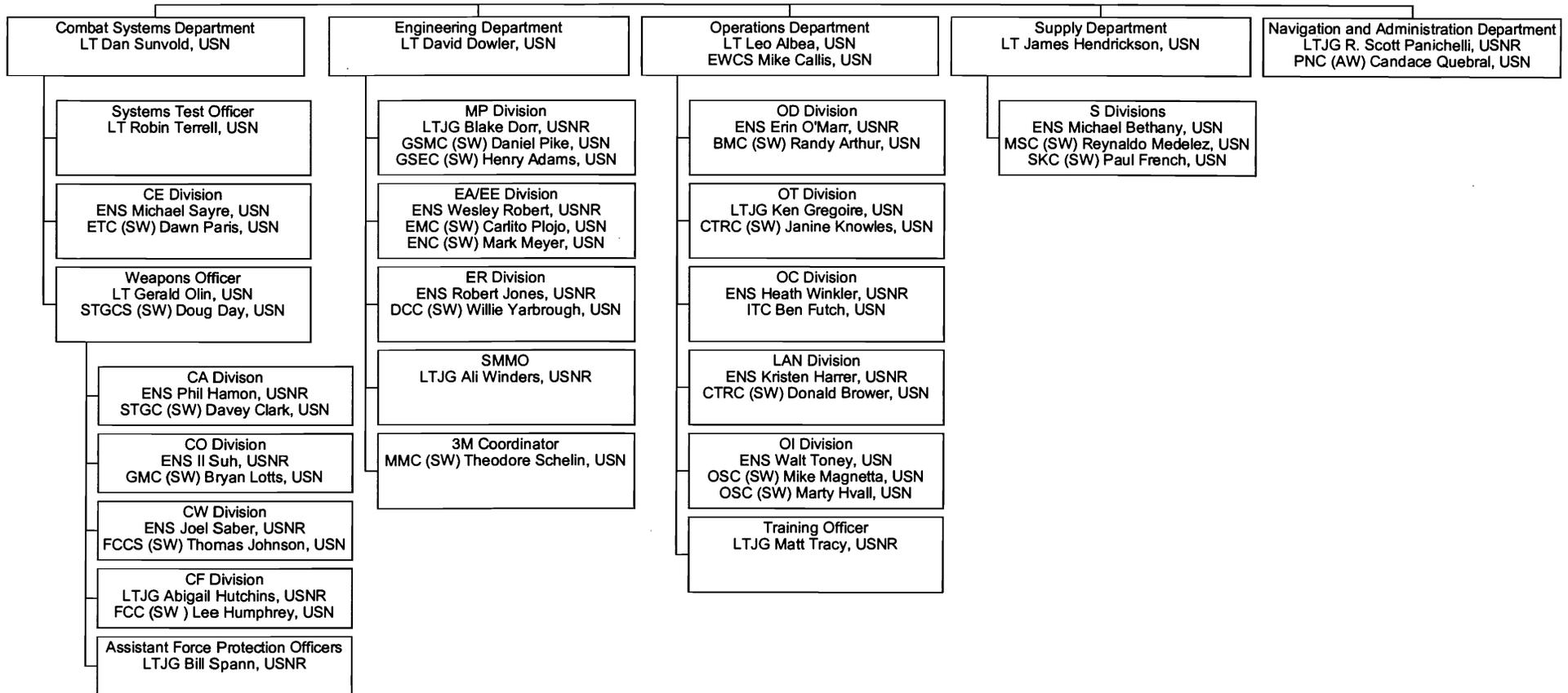
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CINCPACFLT
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Navigator

**USS DECATUR (DDG 73) COMMAND
COMPOSTION AND ORGANIZATION
*ISIC, COMMANDING OFFICER, EXECUTIVE
OFFICER, AND COMMAND MASTER CHIEF*
UIC: R21947**



USS DECATUR (DDG 73) COMMAND COMPOSITION AND ORGANIZATION

DEPARTMENTS AND DIVISIONS



USS DECATUR (DDG 73) JAN01-DEC01 EVENTS

06 JAN 2001 DECATUR awarded CINCPACFLT Golden Retention Award

09 JAN 2001 CDR Gumataotao awarded ADM Zumwalt Award for Visionary Leadership by Surface Navy Association

10-12 JAN 2001 Underway SOCAL for training

17 JAN 2001 Bravo Pier Onload - 5" Ammunition

17-19 JAN 2001 Underway for NSFS, Leaders to Sea, San Diego Chargers visit, and visit by RADM William Fogarty (Ret.)

22 JAN 2001 Visit by RADM Marfiak (USNI)

23-26 JAN 2001 Underway for NSFS

30-31 JAN 2001 ISIC Navigation Checkride

31 JAN-02 FEB 2001 Underway for PCO Orientation and visit by Vice Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff, General Richard B. Meyers and staff for TBMD Demo, luncheon, and ship tour

02 FEB 2001 DECATUR awarded TYCOM Safety Award

03-19 FEB 2001 Inport San Diego

05-21 FEB 2001 ATWCS Material Certification

14 FEB 2001 Visit by CAPT Michael Lefever, PERS 41 for luncheon

15 FEB 2001 DECATUR awarded CDS 23 Battle E and Maritime Warfare Excellence Award, Engineering Excellence Award, Command and Control Excellence Award, and Logistics Management Award

16 FEB 2001 Visit by OLA and Congressional Staff for luncheon and ship tour

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|--------------------|--|
| 20 FEB 2001 | Underway ENR Seal Beach |
| 21-22 FEB 2001 | Ammunition onload Seal Beach - Standard Missiles, 5" ammunition, and small arms ammunition |
| 24 FEB-02 MAR 2001 | Underway as Carl Vinson Battle Group OPFOR |
| 06 MAR 2001 | Underway SOCAL for training CART II |
| 07 MAR-26 MAR 2001 | Inport San Diego CART II Upkeep TSTA A |
| 16 MAR 2001 | Change of Command CDR P.A. Gumataotao relieved by CDR Vic G. Mercado |
| 27-30 MAR 2001 | Underway SOCAL TSTA A |
| 31 MAR-02 APR 2001 | Inport San Diego TSTA A |
| 03-06 APR 2001 | Underway SOCAL TSTA A |
| 07-08 APR 2001 | Inport San Diego TSTA A |
| 09-11 APR 2001 | Underway SOCAL TSTA A |
| 12-16 APR 2001 | Inport San Diego TSTA B Tomahawk Cruise Missile Tactical Qualification |
| 17-20 APR 2001 | Underway SOCAL TSTA B Harpoon Telemetry Checks |
| 21-23 APR 2001 | Inport San Diego TSTA B |

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| 24-27 APR 2001 | Underway SOCAL TSTA B |
| 28 APR-14 MAY 2001 | Inport San Diego IMAV Upkeep Harpoon Cruise Missile Tactical Qualification |
| 12 MAY 2001 | COMDESRON 23 Dining-In |
| 15-18 MAY 2001 | Underway SOCAL TSTA B |
| 16 MAY 2001 | Harpoon BLK II Firing #1 (DT-1) |
| 21-22 MAY 2001 | Underway SOCAL Underway Demonstration (Engineering) |
| 29 MAY-01 JUN 2001 | Underway SOCAL TSTA B |
| 05-07 JUN 2001 | Underway SOCAL FEP |
| 07 JUN 2001 | Harpoon BLK II Firing #2 (DT-1A) |
| 08 JUN-30 JUL 2001 | Inport San Diego C4ISR Installation Availability |
| 12-29 JUN 2001 | Japanese Ship Visit Host JDS SAMIDARE (DD 106) |
| 31 JUL 2001 | Underway SOCAL for training |
| 06-24 AUG 2001 | JOHN C. STENNIS Battle Group COMPTUEX |
| 07 AUG 2001 | Harpoon BLK II Firing #3 (DT-3) |
| 30 AUG 2001 | Underway SOCAL Family Day Cruise |
| 11-22 SEP 2001 | Underway SOCAL ISO Operation NOBLE EAGLE |
| 21 SEP 2001 | SM-2 Missile Shoot ISO VANDALEX |

23 SEP-15 OCT 2001 Inport San Diego
C5RA

16-18 OCT 2001 Underway SOCAL for training

17 OCT 2001 SM-2 Missile Shoot ISO STREAM RAID

18 OCT 2001 Harpoon BLK II Firing #4 (DT-2)

30 OCT-08 NOV 2001 Underway SOCAL
JOHN C. STENNIS Battle Group JTFEX

12 NOV-31 DEC 2001 Deployed with JOHN C. STENNIS Battle
Group
Change ISIC from COMDESRON 23 to
COMDESRON 21

21 NOV 2001 INCHOP 7th FLT AOR

30 NOV-03 DEC 2001 Inport Hong Kong, PRC

07-10 DEC 2001 Inport Singapore

11 DEC 2001 Strait of Malacca Transit

15 DEC 2001 INCHOP 5th FLT AOR

17-31 DEC 2001 SADC/SCC/Greencrown for
PELELIU/BATAAN Amphibious Ready Groups
ISO Operation ENDURING FREEDOM



USS DECATUR (DDG 73) Historical Narrative **for 2001**

USS DECATUR (DDG 73) had a banner year in 2001, setting high goals and reaching those goals from beginning to end. From an abbreviated Inter Deployment Training Cycle (IDTC) to a complex Command, Control, Communication, and Computers (C4I) Availability to Operation NOBLE EAGLE and finally an early deployment in support of Operation ENDURING FREEDOM, DECATUR executed an aggressive schedule that achieved many firsts. The professional accomplishments this year are accredited to DECATUR's warrior spirit embodied in each of her sailors and their commitment to fulfill the finest traditions of Surface Warfare. DECATUR's 2001 operational schedule encapsulates the breadth of a ship's cycle from a shipyard availability and basic training to warfare on the high seas. The professional expertise, dedication to duty, and personal sacrifice of all onboard were evident all year through the many successes achieved.

DECATUR's IDTC provided unique challenges. As the first ship to execute the new Command Assessment of Readiness and Training (CART) II format, DECATUR provided valuable lessons learned, tailoring it to meet the needs of the ship and the assessors. Additionally, DECATUR met all training requirements for the basic phase in just 13 weeks (10 underway training and 3 inport) vice the notional 16 weeks.

Throughout 2001 DECATUR supported the installation and testing of the new HARPOON BLK II missile. Working with Boeing representatives, DECATUR conducted four successful live firings during the course of the year while balancing all the requirements of the IDTC. DECATUR's Strike Teams demonstrated their versatility, training with and testing the Harpoon 10/11 software while concurrently training and preparing for their successful Cruise Missile Tactical Qualification (CMTQ) using the current 9/10 software.

Upon completion of Final Evaluation Period (FEP), DECATUR commenced an eight-week C4I Installation Availability. Here, DECATUR's sense of mission accomplishment and professionalism was on display as the ship embarked on an aggressive schedule to install and test numerous systems, including: Combat Direction Finding (CDF) BLK I, Common Data Link Management System (CDLMS), Sensitive Compartmented Information (SCI) Networks, International Maritime Satellite (INMARSAT) B, Battle Force E-Mail, Naval Tactical Command Support System (NTCSS) OPTIMIZED, SEAPLOT, Global Command and Control System-Maritime (GCCS-M) 3.1.2.1 UPGRADE, Web-Centric ASW Network (WECAN), Government Off-the-Shelf Delphin (GOTS D), 5 KHZ, DISTANCE SUPPORT and Extremely High Frequency Medium Data Rate (EHF MDR). The level of planning and coordination required to conduct the availability in a limited amount of time placed much emphasis on personnel management and leadership and, once again, DECATUR sailors responded superbly, sacrificing where required to meet deadlines and testing requirements. The warrior spirit of DECATUR rose to the occasion and paved the way for the next hurdle - Battle Group operations.

Over the course of one weekend, DECATUR transitioned from a C4I availability to sailing in company with ships and aircraft of the JOHN C. STENNIS Battle Group, another first for DECATUR sailors. DECATUR made this transition smoothly, executing multi-warfare missions aggressively and with the proficiency of more seasoned crews. Highlights from Composite Training Unit Exercise (COMPTUEX) include activation as Alternate Air Defense and Surface

Warfare Commander and joining with the Air Wing in a Close Air Support/Forward Air Controlled (CAS/FAC) (A) Naval Surface Fire Support (NSFS) event. In fact, DECATUR was one of the rare DDGs tested as Air Defense Commander during the COMPTUEX Final Battle Problem without being the alternate.

September 11th resulted in tasking unlike any ever experienced and again DECATUR responded superbly. As the first on scene in SOCAL waters, DECATUR assumed duties as Air Warfare Commander for the U.S. West Coast when the CG was delayed in getting underway. During these critical 24 hours following the attack DECATUR coordinated the air defense of our coast and with COMCARGRU SEVEN and NORTH AMERICAN DEFENSE (NORAD) helped establish a single integrated air and surface link picture for the West Coast of the United States. DECATUR's leadership here resulted in many lessons learned in using various combinations of link architectures to meet NORAD's requirements for a cohesive blue water picture.

Shortly after completion of NOBLE EAGLE operations, DECATUR completed her deployment ammunition and logistics onload, Combat Systems Command, Control, Communication, and Computers Readiness Assessment (C5RA), STREAM RAID, and MISSILEX, and final Harpoon BLK II operational test launch. DECATUR's resultant ability to deploy two months early is a testament to the expert planning, maintenance and overall combat efficiency of DECATUR Surface Warriors. DECATUR completed her advanced phase of training with an abbreviated, intense Joint Task Force Exercise (JTFEX) and then deployed November 12 enroute to support Operation ENDURING FREEDOM.

DECATUR was able to achieve and maintain a high level of combat readiness throughout the year. During 2001, DECATUR pioneered and excelled in all aspects of her duties, including air warfare, surface warfare, undersea warfare, strike warfare, command and control warfare, and force protection.

Highlights of air warfare proficiency include the successful shooting of 3 SM-2's in support of an AAW-27 against a Vandal and an AAW-11-SF against two incoming drones. DECATUR also successfully completed an AAW-21-SF with both forward and aft CIWS mounts against a towed sleeve target and an AAW-12-SF with the 5" gun mount against a towed sleeve target.

The surface warfare side of the house was spearheaded by the firing of the new Harpoon BLK II missiles. But not to be overlooked were the outstanding performances of DECATUR's 5" inch gun team. DECATUR successfully completed the SUW-17-SF twice, which includes firing at a towed surface target. The ship was also able to complete for the first time an SUW-7-SF and an SUW-19-SF, firing 5" rounds in the alternate local control mode and in a high-speed quick fire. Perhaps the most impressive of all was the fact that DECATUR expended 968 rounds throughout the year in support of NSFS, far surpassing even the capacity of the gun's magazine!

DECATUR also excelled in undersea warfare; successfully completing both the SVTT Over-the-Side and LAMPS Vectored Attack live torpedo shoots. The ship also held 71 hours of active and 8 hours of passive contact time against live US and Allied submarines and mobile targets.

DECATUR was a key component in many Strike Warfare exercises throughout the year. The ship participated in a total of 23 TLAMEXs, including 8 SLAMEXs with one as Launch Area Coordinator. As a further testament to the Strike Teams' Tomahawk prowess, DECATUR was the first ship ever to be evaluated at the "B" level by Afloat Training Group