DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

USS FRANK CABLE (AS 40)

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From: Commanding Officer, USS FRANK CABLE (AS 40)
To: Director, Naval Historical Center (Attn: Ship's History Archives), 805 Kidder Breese Street SE, Washington Navy Yard, Washington, DC 20374-5059

Subj: COMMAND HISTORY FOR CY 2003

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12H

Encl: (1) USS FRANK CABLE (AS 40) Command History for CY 2003

1. Per reference (a), enclosure (1) is submitted.

P. J. Bushong

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USS FRANK CABLE (AS 40)
COMMAND HISTORY FOR CY 2003

1. **Command Composition and Organization**

a. **Command.** USS FRANK CABLE (AS 40), UIC: 20865. Commanding Officer, Captain Paul J. Bushong, Homeport: Apra Harbor, Guam.

b. **Mission.** Forward deployed Pacific Fleet Tender, providing maintenance support for Forward Deployed Naval Forces (FDNF), rotational surface ships and submarines homeported in Guam and forward deployed.

c. **Operational/Administrative Chain of Command**

Operational
Commander, Submarine Group 7
Commander Submarine Force, U. S. Pacific Fleet
Commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet

Administrative
Commander, Submarine Squadron 15
Commander Submarine Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet
Commander, U. S. Pacific Fleet

2. **Chronology**

a. **Ship's Movement:**

01 January - 18 January	Inport Guam
18 January	ISE Philippine Sea
18 January - 31 January	Inport Guam
01 February - 28 February	Inport Guam
01 March - 19 March	Inport Guam
19 March - 21 March	ISE Philippine Sea

21 March - 31 March	Inport Guam
01 April - 30 April	Inport Guam
01 May - 02 May	Inport Guam
02 May -	ISE Philipine Sea
10 May - 19 May	Enroute Townsville, Australia
19 May - 27 May	Inport Townsville, Australia
27 May - 05 June	Enroute, Guam
05 June - 30 June	Inport Guam
01 July - 31 July	Inport Guam
23 July	Change of Command
01 August - 07 August	Inport Guam
07 August - 10 August	Enroute Sasebo, Japan
10 August - 25 August	Inport Sasebo, Japan
25 August - 29 August	Enroute Guam
29 August - 31 August	Inport Guam
01 September - 30 September	Inport Guam
01 October - 31 October	Inport Guam
01 November - 30 November	Inport Guam

01 December - 08 December	Inport Guam
08 December - 18 December	ISE Philippine Sea
18 December - 31 December	Inport Guam

b. **Major Command Awards**

September	COMPACFLT Retention Honor Roll 3rd Quarter
December	Awarded the Battle Efficiency "E" Awarded the Engineering Red "E" Awarded the DC Red "DC" Awarded the Supply Blue "E" Awarded the Deck Seamanship White "D" Awarded the Medical Yellow "M" Awarded the Dental Yellow "D" Awarded the Navigation Red and Green "N" Awarded the Repair Red "R" Awarded the Weapons Black "W"

3. **Narrative**

a. **REPAIR**

(1) During CY 2003, FRANK CABLE completed 4,458 jobs that encompassed 248,516 man-hours on FIFTH and SEVENTH Fleet submarines and surface ships. The high quality work was performed on over 22 submarines, 31 surface ships, 9 shore facilities and 38 Flyaway Team (FAT) voyage repair availabilities. FRANK CABLE performed quality repairs to over 75 U.S. Navy and U.S. Coast Guard ships in Sasebo, Yokosuka, Australia, Singapore, Okinawa, Bahrain and Guam. FRANK CABLE earned the highest possible overall grade on the November 2002 Type Commander's Fleet Maintenance Activity Assessment (FMAA).

(2) Exceptional Productivity. FRANK CABLE's yearly productivity averaged over 87%. This high level was accomplished through the combination of work-loading the FMA to 120%, FMA reorganization, increasing shop efficiency, and lowering man-hours per job, all accomplished while maintaining high quality craftsmanship. To overcome the 50% turnover in personnel, the FMA developed and executed an aggressive training program, composed of Shop Quality Improvement (SQIP) courses, continuous on-the-job-training (OJT), and a rigorous qualification program, all coupled with an outstanding mentoring program.

(3) Outstanding Submarine Support. FRANK CABLE's 482 member integrated maintenance team performs at 110% everyday, accomplishing work considered to be "beyond Fleet Maintenance Activity capability", exemplified by the highly successful Fly-Away Teams (FAT). Premier Mast and Antenna repair facility in the Pacific, regularly tasked to conduct emergent Fly-Away repairs and replacements of scopes, antennae, and masts in Singapore, Australia, Korea, Japan, and Bahrain. Overhauled submarine HPAC during a FAT mission to Singapore, achieving success where previous attempts by other activities had failed. Fly-Away Teams overhauled four (4) high pressure brine pumps (HPBPs), overhauled two (2) 1.6K still compressors and replaced one (1) secondary propulsion motor at a remote port in the western pacific. Successfully completed repairs to two (2) SSN secondary launcher valves, a first time repair performed on Guam. Replaced the stern tube bearings and propeller onboard a waterborne SSN. Returned all VLS tubes to service and prevented emergent dry-docking of a forward-deployed submarine, performing waterborne VLS electrical hull fitting replacement-requiring a main ballast tank entry-in Japan, allowing this SSN to be one of the first "shooters" during the early phases of OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM. Completed 169 jobs during a 5-day upkeep of a deployed submarine, an increase in jobs accomplished by 50% over any previous upkeep. FRANK CABLE takes pride in ensuring tended submarines return from deployment in better material condition than when they left homeport. Submarines returning from deployment uniformly praise FRANK CABLE's professionalism, enthusiasm, and high-quality craftsmanship.

(4) Superior Nuclear Support Capability. FRANK CABLE provided and continues to provide nuclear support to the Pacific Fleet. Nuclear Support Division passed a periodic NAVSEA 08 Audit, demonstrating dramatic improvements in conduct of day-to-day operations. Successfully conducted two (2) effluent receipts from tended units, a task that had not been performed in over ten (10) years.

(5) Quality Surface Ship Repair. Superior Surface Ship Repair. Conducted emergent FAT repairs to 2 aircraft carriers, one (1) LPD and one (1) AOE on mission essential equipment. Embarked a team of 6 welders on a deployed aircraft carrier, underway in theater, during early stages of Operation IRAQI FREEDOM, performing essential repairs to her flight deck. Additionally, completed repairs to a CVN catapult steam valve, allowing the CVN to launch aircraft on all four (4) catapults. Provided around the clock support for twenty one (21) consecutive days to a forward deployed LHA, conducting emergent repairs to her boilers allowing her to complete it's mission. Fly-Away Team completed repairs to an AOE's bottom blowdown

piping allowing the ship to continue replenishing a CVN battle group during the peak stages of Operation IRAQI FREEDOM.

b. **ENGINEERING**. Safely steamed over 13,536 nautical miles, including deployments to Townsville, Australia and Sasebo, Japan. Provided electrical power and potable water in support of disaster recovery following Super Typhoon Pongsona. Completed all operational commitments despite major casualties to the Main Air Ejector Condenser, the 2S Switchboard and the #1 Boiler. Repairs to the 2S Switchboard were accomplished within one week by Engineering Department, a repair normally requiring depot level assistance. Engineering Department was awarded the Engineering Red "E".

c. **WEAPONS REPAIR**. Handled over 60,000 pounds of explosives including eight complex tactical weapons logistics evolutions of 55 MK-48 torpedoes and 12 Tomahawk cruise missiles. Completed Tomahawk Re-Certification inspection conducted by Program Executive Office, Weapons and Unmanned Aviation.

d. **SUPPLY**. Loaded new Tender Load List of over 10,000 line items to support Guam homeported submarines. Improved material condition of 29 storerooms. Upgraded the T-shed, which was cited as the "model T-Shed program for the Fleet" by the COMSUBPAC SMI Team. Turned over profits of $114,000 to MWR, the highest in the past four years. Earned a grade of "Outstanding" from Commander Navy Region Southwest's recent surprise on-site audit of Disbursing. Lauded as the "best on the waterfront in Yokosuka." Key contributor in FMA's success rate of 97% job completion. Her Postal Division earned "Outstanding" from COMPACFLT postal inspectors during a surprise inspection, and achieved the highest score of any unit inspected in the last 18 months.

e. **OPERATIONS**. Operations Department demonstrated unparalleled excellence in operations, navigation, communications, automated data processing, and electronic support setting new standards for theater excellence. Navigated over 15,100 nautical miles. A total of 74 days were spent away from homeport. Participated in four highly successful Strategic Communications Exercises utilizing the newly installed Submarine LF/VLF VME Receiver (SLVR). NCTAMS PAC Communications Assessment Team visit was conducted in June. Participated in four Radiological Assistance Team Drills utilizing mobile communications gear including the PRC-117 Satcom Radio and Iridium Satellite Cell Phones. Converted the ship's outgoing messaging system to Turbo-Prep Messaging Software and the ship's incoming at sea messaging system to Fleet SIPRNET Messaging.

CMS Advice and Assist visit was conducted in December. Coordinated the installation of the Submarine LF/VLF VME Receiver (SLVR) greatly enhancing the ship's ability to perform one of her primary missions, Emergency Action Message Retransmission. Completed a groom of all HF/UHF communications equipment onboard. The groom included 4 HF Transmitters, 12 HF Receivers, 8 UHF LOS and SATCOM Transceivers, and all associated CRYPTO Equipment. Expanded the FRANK CABLE NIPRNET and SIPRNET Local Area Networks to accommodate COMSUBRON 15 embarkation as a self-help project involving 85 personnel computers and over 9,000 feet of Fiber Optic and UTP cabling, saving the Navy over $100,000 in contractor support costs. Upgraded the ship's Unclassified Local Area Network as a ship's force self-help project saving the Navy $50,000. Prepared four remote locations for LAN connectivity to ensure a smooth transition from Polaris Point to Guam Shipyard during ship's DPMA. Installed over 18,000 feet of UTP and Fiber Optic cabling, a self-help project with the assistance of SPAWAR Guam, saving the Navy over $250,000 in contractor support costs.

f. **DECK**. Completed three in port Mediterranean Mooring evolutions, the ships first dual point anchoring on Galvez Banks, numerous pier side moorings in Townsville Australia, Guam; Sasebo Japan. All evolutions were safely and expertly executed. Provided crane services conducting over 2,400 crane lifts 1000 of which were critical. Moored alongside and provided services to 16 fast attack 688 class submarines. During an upkeep period in Sasebo Japan, the first surface ship was moored alongside, the USS LASSEN DDG 82. Contracted the resurfacing of more than 30,000 square feet in weather deck non-skid. Aggressively attacked exterior corrosion and internal preservation. "The warship that fixes warships" never looked better.

g. **RELIGIOUS MINISTRIES**. FRANK CABLE continued its aggressive Community Service Program by sending 284 volunteers on 17 projects that contributed 866 hours of service in Japan and Guam.

16 Jan 2003 - Martin Luther King Jr's Celebration Volunteers sung and read prayers during the ship's celebration of MLK Jr's Day.

12 Apr 2003 - Special Olympics Guam. See note below.

02 Jul 2003 - Special Olympics Guam. See note below.

02 Aug 2003 - Special Olympics Guam. See note below.

12 Aug 2003 - Akarizakisou Nursing Home, Sasebo, Japan. See note below.

19 Aug 2003 - Cho-juen Nursing Home, Sasebo, Japan. See note below.

21 Aug 2003 - Sasebo Nursing Home, Sasebo, Japan. See note below.

13 Sep 2003 - Special Olympics Guam. See note below.

20 Sep 2003 - Special Olympics Guam. See note below.

20 Sep 2003 - Intercoastal Beach Clean-up. Sailors participated with all other commands to facilitate a beach clean-up day. Groups were spread out on all beaches around the island. Some CABLE Sailors went on Boat dives and cleaned up the reef near the beaches.

23 Sep 2003 - JROTC Tour. RPC Hamilton organized and administered A Tour of the FRANK CABLE for 100+ JROTC students from a local high school. The event included over 70 volunteers and led to the strengthening of community relationships.

25 Oct 2003 - Habitat for Humanity (HFH). Sailors worked with HFH Guam to build a home in Inarajan, Guam for a family who lost their home in a Typhoon disaster. Workers put down sheetrock, electrical wiring, and worked side-by-side with the family who would later take ownership of the home.

08 Nov 2003 - Special Olympics Guam. See note below.

10 Nov 2003 - Veteran's Day Celebration (Oceanview Middle School). Sailors initiated and participated in the school's Veteran's Day Celebration by providing a color guard detail, leading prayer, and singing. They provided a good mentoring example for the students, demonstrating a proper way to honor our military veterans.

24 November 2003 - Thanksgiving Food Drive/Salvation Army Dinner. Sailors collected over 65 bags of food to be donated to local Guam residents through the Salvation Army. This was our first attempt at collection and all departments participated! Several Sailors, despite a possible forthcoming typhoon evasion, went to the Salvation Army site on Thanksgiving Day and served dinner to homeless and low-income residents.

20 Dec 2003 - Oceanview Middle School "Happy Labor Day". Sailors spent a Saturday from 0700-1130 to assist the ship's adopted sister school (Oceanview Middle School) with painting, yard work, drive-way repair, and other maintenance projects. The school fed the Sailors local food in appreciation.

24 Dec 2003 - "Adopt-A-Sailor". Sailors were invited to dine with a family in the ship's sister village of Piti. The family provided transportation for the Sailors to dine with the family on Christmas Night. This was a great opportunity for Sailors to be with a local family for the holiday and experience Christmas "Chamorro style."

NOTE:

Speacial Olympics of Guam (SOG) - Between April to November 2003, Sailors gave many hours of their time each weekend to

assist SOG with bowling clinics to prepare the athletes for a Bowling Tournament. Sailors and athletes gathered at the Guam Bowling Alley to participate in the SOG event. The tournament was followed by an awards presentation and a Guam festival. Sailors participated in the planning, organization, and administration of the event.

Sasebo - Sailors went to three local Nursing Homes and volunteered their time and efforts washing windows, mopping and waxing floors, mowing and weeding yards, and performing various maintenance jobs. In addition, sailors spent time visiting with the residents and enjoyed their company and opportunity to fellowship with them. Two of the projects were open to all sailors and the final day was led by the Chief's Mess and Chief selectees.

In the year 2002-2003 the USS FRANK CABLE received the Honorable Mention in the Sister Village Award and was submitted for participation in the Flagship Project Good Neighbor. Results are not yet released.

Contemporary Worship - At the end of FY04 the RMT implemented the use of powerpoint and contemporary media into the ship's weekly Christian Worship Service. Upbeat and contemporary Christian music was implemented, along with short movie clips to bring a new perspective on worship for the sailors.

Sailors For Christ - A new weekly Scripture Study group was initiated called "Sailors For Christ" which applies the wisdom, insights and power of the holy Scriptures to specific aspects of living a spiritual life in the Navy. Illustrations, materials and thought provoking reflective questions targeted the specific needs of sailors.

Memorial Services - Memorial Services for two sailors were conducted this year. One sailor drowned while swimming on a COMNAVMAR beach and the other sailor disappeared during an apparent diving event and was presumed deceased in September 2003.

Baptisms/Weddings - FRANK CABLE celebrated the first recorded on-board Baptism this year led by Chaplain Bowden. There were two (2) vow renewal ceremonies and five (5) wedding ceremonies conducted during this reporting period.

Special Observances - Chaplains participated in each of the following special observances: Chief Retirements, Native

American/Pacific Heritage Celebration, Martin Luther King, Jr. Remembrance, Hispanic Heritage Celebration, 9/11 Remembrance, evening prayers at sea, and etc. In addition, the Religious Ministry Team led and assisted in the following programs:

Prevention and Relationship Enhancement Program (PREP) - Chaplains assisted with the Regional PREP training that was offered twice during this reporting period. Over 20 couples (7 CABLE couples) completed the sessions, which were coordinated through FFSC and facilitated and administered by regional chaplains.

Navy Sea Cadet Program - Chaplain Appleton serves as the Chaplain for the command sponsored Sea Cadet Program aboard the FRANK CABLE, providing spiritual and pastoral care support.

Familiarization and Indoctrination Team (FIT) - During this time of orientation of all new members of our command, the Chaplains' addressed a variety of topics including:

- Counseling
- Confidentiality
- Religious Programming
- Red Cross Overview including Messages
- Emergency Leave
- Community Service Program
- Library
- Cultural, Historical & Natural Resources Brief

Additionally, this time was used to administer "The Keirsey Temperament Sorter II" for the purpose of introducing differences in personalities & leadership styles. This gives a basic introduction to dealing with peers and supervisors