



Rec'd 4/15/91

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

USS FORD (FFG 54)

FLEET POST OFFICE

SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA 96665-1508

IN REPLY REFER TO:

5000

FFG54/CO

28 MAR 1991

From: Commanding Officer, USS FORD (FFG-54)
To: Director of Naval History (OP-09BH), Washington, DC 20374-0571

Subj: COMMAND HISTORY FOR 1990

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12D

Encl: (1) Command Composition and Organization
(2) Chronology
(3) Narrative
(4) Commanding Officer's Biography and Photographs
(5) USS FORD Welcome Aboard Booklet

1. Enclosures (1) through (5) are forwarded in accordance with reference (a).

W. W. Spotts
W. W. SPOTTS

Copy to:
COMDESRON NINE

COMMAND COMPOSITION AND ORGANIZATION

a. USS FORD (FFG-54) is the forty-eighth of the fifty-one ship Oliver Hazard Perry class of guided missile frigates. This is the Navy's largest destroyer class built since World War II. It's mission is to provide in-depth anti-air, anti-surface, and anti-submarine protection for military and merchant shipping and to ensure continuous use of the sea lanes of communications for the United States and its allies.

b. The Combat Systems aboard utilize a computerized command and control system to integrate the ship's sensors and weapons. Its weapons include Harpoon surface-to-surface and standard SM1 surface-to-air missiles, a 76mm rapid fire gun, 20mm Close-in Weapons System, MK46 anti-submarine torpedoes and the LAMPS MK III helicopter/weapons system.

c. The propulsion system is a computer controlled gas turbine power plant which utilizes jet engines similar to those found on commercial airliners. FORD's propulsion system can be 'brought on line' in less than five minutes.

d. Despite the advanced systems aboard, the heart of the ship is the crew. Each member has been highly trained in his particular area of expertise so that he can either operate, monitor, or repair all shipboard systems. FORD's crew is composed of 15 Officers, 14 Chief Petty Officers, and 163 other junior enlisted. When assigned a dual aircraft LAMPS MK III Detachment; 6 Officers, 1 Chief Petty Officer, and 14 other junior enlisted are added to the crew.

CHRONOLOGY

1 - 7 JAN 90	HOLIDAY LEAVE/UPKEEP
8 JAN - 4 FEB 90	INTERMEDIATE MAINTENANCE AVAILABILITY (IMAV) 4A/5
15 JAN 90	3M INSPECTION CMS ASSIST VISIT CAREER COUNSELOR ASSIST
18 JAN 90	TEMPEST INSPECTION
5 FEB 90	TEST EQUIPMENT ALLOWANCE REVIEW
12 FEB 90	TRAINING AVAILABILITY (TRAV) SAN DIEGO, CA AVIATION CERTIFICATION INSPECTION (ASIR) TECH ASSIST
26 FEB 90	SENIOR OFFICER SHIP MATERIAL READINESS COURSE (SOSMRC) SCHOOL SHIP
19 - 23 MAR 90	BOARD OF INSPECTION AND SURVEY (INSURV)
20 - 23 MAR 90	20B5 TRAINER
24 MAR - 6 APR 90	A2 AVAIL WITH USS PRAIRIE
9 - 12 APR 90	MOBILE TRAINING TEAM (MTT) PHASE III
11 APR 90	COMMUNICATIONS MATERIAL SECURITY (CMS) INSPECTION
16 - 19 APR 90	TYPE TRAINING (TYT), SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA OPAREAS
21 - 22 APR 90	TYPE TRAINING (TYT), SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA OPAREAS
23 APR 90	OFFLOAD SEAL BEACH
23 APR 90	NAVIGATION CHECK RIDE
1 - 3 MAY 90	OPERATIONAL PROPULSION PLANT RECERTIFICATION EXAMINATION (OPPRE)
14 MAY - 16 JUL 90	SELECTED RESTRICTED AVAILABILITY (SRA) NO. 2
14 MAY - 31 JUL 90	INTEGRATED LOGISTICS OVERHAUL
21 - 24 MAY 90	COMMAND ASSESSMENT TRAINING (CAT)
11 JUN 90	WELFARE AND RECREATION INSPECTION
9 - 13 JUL 90	COMBAT SYSTEMS TRAINING REVIEW (CSTR)
19 JUL 90	TACAN CERTIFICATION
24 - 27 JUL 90	ALL-COMERS AT SEA TRAINING (ACAT)
26 JUL 90	MISSILE EXERCISE PACIFIC MISSILE TEST CENTER
28 JUL - 5 AUG 90	UPKEEP LONG BEACH
30 JUL 90	OVERALL COMBAT SYSTEMS OPERABILITY TEST (OCSOT)/DAILY SYSTEMS OPERABILITY TEST (DSOT) REVIEW
6 -10 AUG 90	TYPE TRAINING, SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA OPAREAS
13 - 17 AUG 90	SENIOR OFFICER SHIP MATERIAL READINESS COURSE (SOSMRC) SCHOOL SHIP
14 -15 AUG 90	SUPPLY MANAGEMENT ASSESSMENT (SMA)
17 AUG 90	FLEET OPERATIONAL READINESS ACCURACY CHECK SITE (FORACS)/SURFACE SHIP RADIATED NOISE MEASUREMENT (SSRNM)
14 - 17 AUG 90	ANTI-SUBMARINE WARFARE (ASW) PHASE I TEAM TRAINING
20 AUG - 2 SEP 90	S AVAIL LONG BEACH
27 -28 AUG 90	TRAINING READINESS EVALUATION (TRE)
4 - 7 SEP 90	COMBAT SYSTEMS ASSESSMENT (CSA)
10 -14 SEP 90	AVIATION CERTIFICATION INSPECTION (ASIR) TECHNICAL ASSIST UPGRADED TO ASIR CERTIFICATION

10 -14 SEP 90	ANTI-SUBMARINE WARFARE (ASW) PHASE II TEAM TRAINING
13 SEP 90	AVIATION ASSIST VISIT (AAV) UPGRADED TO AVIATION READINESS EVALUATION (ARE)
15 SEP - 5 OCT 90	INTERIM REFRESHER TRAINING (IRFT)
25 OCT 90	MEDICAL READINESS EVALUATION (MRE)
29 - 30 OCT 90	SHIPBOARD EXPLOSIVE SURVEY INSPECTION (SESI)
30 OCT - 1 NOV 90	MIDDLE EAST FORCE EXERCISE (MEFEX) TRAINER
22 - 26 OCT 90	HARPOON TEAM TRAINER
30 OCT 90	DENTAL READINESS EVALUATION (DRE)
1 NOV 90	ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SURVEY (EHS)
13 NOV - 30 DEC 90	DEPLOYED WESTERN PACIFIC/INDIAN OCEAN
18 -21 NOV 90	MIDDLE EAST FORCE EXERCISE (MEFEX) HAWAII
21 -22 NOV 90	PEARL HARBOR, HI PORT VISIT
8 - 12 DEC 90	SUBIC BAY, PHILIPPINES UPKEEP
17 - 21 DEC 90	PHATTAYA BEACH, THAILAND PORT VISIT
22 - 31 DEC 90	ENROUTE DIEGO GARCIA

NARRATIVE

USS FORD began 1990 in a post-deployment leave and upkeep period. During the coming months FORD's schedule demanded the most from its crew as FORD surged through 56 examinations, inspections, certifications and assist visits in just under 11 months. FORD was chosen as Senior Officer Ship Material Readiness Course (SOSMRC) school ship in February and then again in August 1990 due to its demonstrated outstanding material readiness. FORD was also selected to sponsor a midshipman cruise for eight midshipmen and received a 'well done' from COMNAVSURFPAC San Diego for providing outstanding training. Among the many inspections and certifications passed, FORD excelled at 3M, Operational Propulsion Plant Recertification Examination (OPPRE), Training Readiness Evaluation (TRE), Interim Refresher Training (IRFT), Aviation Readiness Evaluation (ARE), Medical Readiness Evaluation (MRE), Dental Readiness Evaluation (DRE), Environmental Health Survey (EHS), Fleet Accounting and Disbursing Center Pacific (FAADCPAC) audit, and Middle East Force Exercise (MEFEX). The 3M inspection had marks consistently above fleet averages, while the OPPRE was a great success, with other ships of the same class seeking OPPRE guidance from FORD. A very successful TRE set the stage for a productive REFTRA during which time FORD made final preparations for the deployment. HSL-49 Det 1, which deployed later with FORD in November, embarked for the first week of the three week long IRFT.

FORD sponsored a dependent's cruise in March 1990, which went from San Diego to Long Beach. Then again in November 1990 FORD sponsored a Navy League/Dependent's Cruise which departed from Long beach and debarked in Seal Beach. All the events were highly successful and enjoyed by the crew and guests. Three FORD pre-deployment fairs assisted dependents with legal, health services, family services, and navy relief questions. The turnout was excellent and the benefit was a minimum of problems at home while on deployment.

FORD was scheduled to deploy in Jan 91, but due 22 to the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait and subsequent Operation Desert Shield commitments, FORD deployed two months early on 13 November 1990. HSL-49 Det 1 from Naval Air Station, North Island, San Diego, California deployed with FORD, the first detachment of this newly formed squadron to do so. Last minute onload of stores and parts were taking place even on the day of departure. The crew rose to the challenge and there was time for pre-deployment leave periods as well as getting the ship ready for the 6 month underway period. FORD stopped in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii 21 through 22 November 1990 and in Subic Bay, Philippines from 8 through 12 December 1990 for an upkeep period. 17 through 21 December 1990 saw FORD have a very successful port visit in Phattaya Beach, Thailand. FORD was among three ships honored at the Bangmulung Boys Home for food and supply donations during the stay. FORD spent Christmas at sea enroute to Diego Garcia.