



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY  
COMMANDING OFFICER  
USS MEMPHIS (SSN 691) ✓  
FPO New York 09578-2371

5750  
Ser SSN691/044  
23 February 1988

From: Commanding Officer, USS MEMPHIS (SSN691)  
To: Director of Naval History (OP-09BH), Washington Navy Yard,  
Washington, DC 20374-0571

Subj: COMMAND HISTORY FOR USS MEMPHIS (SSN691)

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12D

Encl: (1) 1987 Command History for USS MEMPHIS (SSN691)

1. In accordance with reference (a), enclosure (1) is forwarded.

  
G. E. WILLIAMS

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## Part I - Command Composition and Organization

USS MEMPHIS (SSN691) is a Los Angeles Class fast attack, nuclear powered submarine whose primary mission is anti-submarine warfare (ASW). She is homeported in Norfolk, Virginia and supports the following operational Chain of Command: Commander Submarine Squadron EIGHT, Commander Submarine Force, U.S. ATLANTIC Fleet and Commander in Chief, U.S. ATLANTIC Fleet. USS MEMPHIS (SSN691) reports administratively to Commander Submarine Group SIX via Commander Submarine Squadron EIGHT.

Commander Gary E. Williams, USN, relieved Commander William L. Norris, USN, as Commanding Officer on 28 March 1987.

## Part II - Chronology

01 JAN - 05 JAN	Inport, Norfolk, VA
05 JAN - 10 JAN	Underway, Type Training
10 JAN - 23 JAN	Weapons Refresher Training, Inport, Charleston, SC
23 JAN - 25 JAN	Underway, Type Training
26 JAN - 02 MAR	Inport, Norfolk, VA
02 MAR - 08 MAR	Underway, Type Training
09 MAR - 12 MAR	Post Overhaul Acoustic Trials, Exuma Sound, Bahamas
12 MAR - 14 MAR	Underway, Type Training
14 MAR - 16 MAR	Inport, Norfolk, VA
17 MAR - 19 MAR	Underway, Material Inspection (Insurv Board)
19 MAR - 28 MAR	Inport, Norfolk, VA
28 MAR	Change of Command, Norfolk, VA
31 MAR - 02 APR	Nuclear Weapons Acceptance Inspection, Norfolk, VA
06 APR - 02 MAY	Inport, Norfolk, VA
04 MAY - 10 MAY	FLEETEX 2-87
14 MAY - 18 MAY	Inport, Annapolis, MD (USNA Graduation Week)
23 MAY - 25 MAY	Inport, Port Everglades, FL
28 MAY - 29 MAY	MK 48 Torpedo, Harpoon and Tomahawk Missile Certification at St. Croix, USVI
02 JUN - 18 JUN	Midshipman Second Class Indoctrination/Training at Autec, Bahama Islands
24 JUN - 25 JUN	Operational Reactor Safeguards Examination (ORSE)
26 JUN - 02 JUL	Inport, Norfolk, VA
06 JUL - 10 JUL	Underway with USS CORAL SEA Battle Group
13 JUL - 17 JUL	NROTC Midshipman Indoctrination/Training at Charleston, SC
20 JUL - 13 AUG	Inport, Norfolk, VA for POM Upkeep
14 AUG - 20 AUG	Underway for SUMMEREX 87 and MK 48 Exercise Torpedo Firings
21 AUG - 24 AUG	Inport, St. Croix, USVI
25 AUG - 30 AUG	Underway for POM Workup
31 AUG - 05 SEP	Pre-Deployment Refresher Training, New London, CT
06 SEP - 11 SEP	Underway for POM Workup
12 SEP - 20 SEP	Inport, Norfolk, VA for POM Loadout
21 SEP - 24 SEP	Underway for POM Certification
28 SEP - 11 OCT	Deployed to Mediterranean Sea, Transatlantic Operations with USS CORAL SEA Battle Group

Enclosure (1)

## Part II - Chronology (Continued)

11 OCT - 01 NOV	Inchop Mediterranean Sea, Mediterranean National Week, ASW Operations
02 NOV - 14 NOV	Inport, La Maddalena, Sardinia, Italy for Upkeep
16 NOV - 19 NOV	Port Visit, Toulon, France
20 NOV - 17 DEC	Underway for ASW Operations
18 DEC - 31 DEC	Inport, La Maddalena, Sardinia, Italy for Upkeep

## Part III - Narrative

The year 1987 was extremely busy for USS MEMPHIS (SSN691) as she prepared and departed on her first overseas deployment of the new operating cycle. The period from the beginning of January through the middle of March saw many days underway conducting type training, acoustic trails and INSURV, and may days both in Norfolk and other ports conducting weapons refresher training. On 28 March 1987 Commander William L. Norris, USN, was relieved as Commanding Officer by Commander Gary E. Williams, USN.

Three days after his relief, USS MEMPHIS successfully completed the first of post overhaul certification, the Nuclear Weapons Acceptance Inspection. This was followed by MK 48 Torpedo, Harpoon and Tomahawk Missile Certification at the end of May, and Operational Reactor Safeguards Examination (ORSE) the end of June.

During the same period of time, the USS MEMPHIS (SSN691) also participated in FLEETEX 2-87 and Graduation Week activities at the U.S. Naval Academy. While at anchor there more than 1000 visitors toured the ship during the four days of general visiting. Following the enjoyable week at the Naval Academy, USS MEMPHIS (SSN691) proceeded to the AJTEC range where she conducted indoctrination and training for 125 Midshipmen 2nd Class from the Naval Academy, while preparing for her ORSE. MEMPHIS conducted similar training a month later for 40 2nd Class NROTC Midshipmen at Charleston, SC.

The month of July saw the beginning of an intense period of training, upkeeps and loadouts in preparation for MEMPHIS' deployment to the Mediterranean Sea. This hectic schedule included many at sea workups with the USS CORAL SEA Battle Group, and continued until deployment in September. Included in this preparation was participation in SUMMEREX 87, MK 48 Exercise Torpedo firings, and predeployment refresher training in New London, Connecticut.

On 28 September, USS MEMPHIS deployed to the Mediterranean Sea, conducting continuous operations with the USS CORAL SEA Battle Group during the 2 week transit. The ship inported to Commander Sixth Fleet during the second week of October and conducted ASW operations for the next several weeks. MEMPHIS began her first Mediterranean upkeep the first 2 weeks of November, alongside USS ORION (AS19) in La Maddalena, Sardinia, Italy. Following this upkeep, she visited Toulon, France for 4 days and then resumed ASW operations. MEMPHIS closed out the year alongside USS ORION (AS19) halfway through her second Mediterranean deployment upkeep.