



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
USS THACH (FFG 43)
FLEET POST OFFICE
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA 96679-1498

IN REPLY REFER TO:
5750
Ser FFG 43/ 124
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From: Commanding Officer, USS THACH (FFG 43)
To: Director of Naval History, Washington, D.C. 20374

Subj: SUBMISSION OF COMMAND HISTORY

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12C

Encl: (1) Commanding Officer's Picture and Biography
(2) Statistical Data
(3) Ship's Photograph
(4) Organization Chart

1. Per reference (a), enclosure (1) through (4) are provided for additional background.


G. J. O'DONNELL

Copy to:
COMNAVSURFPAC
COMDESRON 21

1. a. Command Composition and Organization

USS THACH is a flight III Oliver Hazard Perry Class Guided Missile Frigate designed to provide Anti-Submarine, Anti-Surface and medium range Anti-Air defense to a battle group or merchant convoy. THACH is part of Destroyer Squadron TWENTY-ONE; Commanded by Captain R. J. Doll. The ship is homeported in San Diego CA and is commanded by Commander G. J. O'Donnell. During THACH's first deployment one LAMPS MK III (SH60B) Anti-Submarine Warfare Helicopter was embarked, Tail Code TT24.

b. Chronology:

JANUARY 1986

- 1 OS2 McCann reenlists at 0001, first man in San Diego to reenlist in 1986.
- 6 Christmas standown ends.
- 9 Aviation assist visit completed, upgraded to successful aviation readiness evaluation.
- 10 Personnel inspection for Support Department.
- 14-16 U/W SOCAL operation area.
- 17-20 Inport San Diego.
- 21-31 U/W SOCAL operations areas for COMPUTEX 86-2.
- 22 Towing exercise with USS STEIN.
- 24 UNREP with USS NEW JERSEY (dry hook up), and USS WABASH, first underway rearming.
- 26 Missile firing exercise.
- 30 UNREP with USS NEW JERSEY.
- 30 BMCS Dutcher reenlists in SH-60B helo.
- 30 UNREP/VERTREP with USS WABASH.
- 31 Inport San Diego.

FEBRUARY 1986

- 3 EMC Bellows reenlists.
- 3-4 Small arms training.
- 3-7 BBBG AAW team trainer.
- 8-9 Visit ship Broadway pier, San Diego, CA.
- 10-11 BBBG INPORTEX.
- 11 GS1 Denny named DESRON TWENTY-ONE Sailor of the Year.
- 15 Admiral Lyons, CINCPACFLT, Admiral Davis, COMNAVSURFPAC; Rear Admiral Taylor, COMCRUDESGRU ONE; Captian Doll, COMDESRON TWENTY-ONE; visit ship.
- 18 Underway for READIEX 86-2.
- 20 UNREP with USS WABASH.
- 21 VERTREP with USS WABASH-fire party called away due to smoke in Sonar Control caused by dirty reheater. No casualites. Gunnery exercise USS New Jersey - THACH scores 100%.
- 23 Burial at sea for three deceased Naval personnel.
- 24 First THACH Officers to attain Surface Warfare Qualification - LTJG Conoscenti, LTJG Faulhaber.
- 26 THACH assigned alternate ASWC, AAWC, SFTC, FTC, EWC during COMPUTEX 86-2.
- 27 UNREP with USS WABASH.
- 28 Fire party called away for smoke in BOS'N locker caused by dirty reheater. No casualties. GSE2 Dexter reenlists at General Quarters.

MARCH 1986

- 2 UNREP with USS WABASH.
- 3-5 Battle group evaluation.
- 5 Flight international crash-SAR mission for two private aircraft on tracking mission for the navy.
- 6 First Harpoon shot by THACH - coordinated attack by THACH, HADDO and P-3.
- 7 Successful LAMPS MK III exercise torpedo drop on USS PINTADO.
- 8 Missile shot against vandal.
- 9 UNREP with USS WABASH.
- 10 Inport San Diego.
- 11 THACH received communications and UMS support award for READIEX 86-2. Runner-up in ASW, third in missiles and engineering. Placed second in overall competition.
- 17 Awards ceremony - COMDESRON 21 onboard for cake cutting ceremony celebrating ship's second birthday.
- 18 EPMU Medical assist visit upgraded to a completed inspection.
- 26 EWL Anderson named Sailor of the Quarter (Senior), HT3 Loud named Sailor of the Quarter (Junior).
- 28 Medical readiness evaluation successfully completed.

APRIL 1986

- 1-9 DESRON 21 embarks in THACH.
- 10 Underway enroute Seal Beach.
- 11 Pre-Deployment ammo onload Seal Beach - Return to San Diego same night.
- 15 DESRON 21 security inspection.
- 18 Ship's party at Admiral Baker Field - Sponsored by the First Class Petty Officers.
- 23 Changed out 1B Gas Turbine.
- 29 COMDESRON 21, Captain Doll reenlists GSMC Green. Semi-Annual PT Test.

MAY 1986

- 1 Successfully completed Major CONFLAG drill observed by DESRON 21 staff.
- 8 Kids day onboard THACH.
- 9 Underway for sea trials - performed first astern refueling ever on THACH with USNS KIWISHIWI.
- 10 Dependents cruise - two hundred guests spend a day underway with the crew. Awards ceremony - GSE2 McDonald reenlists.
- 12 Underway as part of Battle Group Romeo - OTC: under Rear Admiral R.A.K. Taylor. Helicopter Anti-Submarine Light Forty-Three detachment four (HSL-43 Det 4) embarked. THACH's first deployment.
- 15 UNREP with USS WABASH.
- 19 UNREP with USS NEW JERSEY.
- 20 Torpedo exercise on Barstur range Hawaii - fired two torpedoes against a live target.
- 21-23 Participated in exercise BGAREM 86-2.
- 24-27 Port visit Pearl Harbor Hawaii.
- 27 Underway from Pearl Harbor.

JUNE 1986

- 3 UNREP with USS WABASH.
- 6-7 CHOP to Seventh Fleet Area of responsibility - conducted inchoop exercise
- 13 UNREP with USS WABASH
- 14-17 Inport Chinhae, ROK. Delivered Handclasp materials to Fleet Activity Chinhae for to delivery to various charitable organizations
- 15 Prospective Commanding Officer Commander O'Donnell arrives
- 16 ASW team trainer with Republic of Korea Navy - Commander, Cruiser Destroyer Group ONE in USS LONG BEACH detaches from the battleship battle group.
- 17 Loaded USN/ROK UDT - underway for Valient Usher 86-3
- 18 USS STERETT (CG 31) joins battleship battlegroup - Commander, Task Force Seven Zero embarked.
- 19-21 Valient Usher exercise with ROKN - CTF/0 officer in tactical command.
- 19 UDT insertion operations off TOK SOK RI, ROK.
- 21 UDT Insertion/Extraction operations - USS STERETT punctures sonar dome rubber window in fire support area off TOK SOK RI, UDT does inspection dive on STERETT. Inport POHANG, ROK to offload UDT's. THACH assumes Anti-Air Warfare Commander for Task Group.
- 24 Tracked MOD E II submarine returning to the Soviet Union from South China Sea Deployment. Valient Usher ends.
- 25 UNREP with USS WABASH. USS STERETT detaches from the Battleship battle Group.
- 29 Change of Command. Commander G. J. O'Donnell relieves Commander D. H. Moses. Commander, Destroyer Squadron TWENTY-ONE, Captain R. J. Doll guest speaker.
- 30 Inport Hong Kong, B.C.

JULY 1986

- 2-3 General visiting over 10,000 visitors in two days.
- 5 Underway from Hong Kong, enroute Subic operation areas.
- 8-10 Typhoon Peggy avoidance; all operations suspended.
- 11-18 Inport Subic Bay for maintenance availability. Relinquished Anti-Air Warfare Commander to USS LONG BEACH (CGN 9).
- 19 Underway for Manila.
- 19-22 Inport Manila, RP.
- 21 THACH coordinates Battle Group Community relations project and distribution of Project Handclasp material.
- 22 Underway from Manila.
- 23-29 Passing exercise with Royal Australian units HOBART, OTAMA, STUART - USS KIRK joins Battleship Battle Group.
- 25 Underway replenishment with USS WABASH.
- 28 Underway replenishment with USS WABASH.
- 29-04 AUG Port visit Pattaya Beach, Thailand.

AUGUST 1986

- 5 Underway from Pattaya Beach, Thailand.
- 6 UNREP with USS WABASH.
- 6-12 Conducted exercise COBRA GOLD-86 with Royal Thai Navy.
- 07-09 Insertion operations with US/Thai seals and Marine Recon forces.
- 08 UNREP with USS WABASH - CONREP with USNS SPICA.
- 12-13 Conducted Navigation/Overflight rights at sea with USS LONG BEACH
- 14 USS KIRK detaches from Battleship Battle Group.
- 15-16 Australian Navy passing exercises - HMAS HOBART joins Battleship Battle Group.
- 15 Manila highlined two midshipmen from USS NEW JERSEY for summer training.
- 20-21 Participated in HARPOONEX-86 the sinking of the ex submarine GRAYBACK.
- 24-02SEP Inport Yokosuka, Japan for maintenance availability.
- 27 LTJG Gattis qualifies as Surface Warfare Officer.

SEPTEMBER 1986

- 02 Underway from Yokosuka Japan.
- 03 UNREP with USS WABASH.
- 05-09 Inport Pusan, ROK. THACH is Battle Group port coordinator for conducting community relations and distribution of Handclasp material.
- 8 THACH receives Engineering, Damage Control, Anti-Submarine, Electronic Warfare, Gunnery, Missile, Communications and Combat Information Center Excellence awards from Commander, Naval Surface Force Pacific. The Engineering, Electronic Warfare and Gunnery awards are consecutive awards.
- 10 OCT Underway from Pusan, ROK - UNREP with USS WABASH.
- 10-16 Battle Force OPS with USS RANGER Battle Group.
- 12 RDVU with USS RANGER Battle Group.
- 17 UNREP with USS WABASH.
- 18-22 Inport Inchon, ROK.
- 18-22 UNREP with USS WABASH.
- 27 Personnel inspection of Combat Systems Department - UNREP with USS WABASH.
- 29-10 OCT Participated in FLEETEX 86 with USS RANGER and USS CONSTELLATION Battle Groups.
- 30 CHOP to Third Fleet Area of responsibility - UNREP with USS WABASH.

OCTOBER 1986

- 2 UNREP with USS NEW JERSEY.
- 8 UNREP with USS WABASH.
- 11-13 Inport Juneau, Alaska with USS MERRILL. Open for general visiting - approximately 1,500 people toured the ship.
- 14 Underway from Juneau, Alaska - Enroute Vancouver B.C., Canada.
- 16 UNREP with USS WABASH.
- 17-19 Inport Vancouver, B.C., Canada with USS MERRILL.
- 18 Commander Destroyer Squadron TWENTY-ONE dining in.
- 19 Commander in Chief Pacific Fleet Propulsion Examining Board arrives to conduct operation Propulsion Plant Re-Examination.
- 19 Embark 28 Dependents/Friends for Tiger Cruise.
- 20 Underway from Vancouver, B.C. enroute San Diego.
- 21 SMC Bentley Reenlists.
- 22 Successfully completed Operational Propulsion Plant Re-Examination - VADM R.A.K. Taylor Commander, Cruiser Destroyer Group ONE attends debrief on THACH.
- 24 Return to homeport - San Diego CA. Commenced leave and upkeep period. HSL-43 Det 4 detaches from THACH.

NOVEMBER 1986

- 3-7 Successfully completed Anti-Submarine Warfare Phase I team trainer with final grade of 95%.
- 10-14 Harpoon team trainer.
- 17-21 Successfully completed Anti-Submarine Warfare Phase II team trainer with final grade of 94%.
- 25 Fast Cruise.
- 26 Command Personnel Inspection held by Commanding Officer. Awards ceremony - Captain R. J. Doll Commander, Destroyer Squadron TWENTY-ONE presenting awards.

DECEMBER 1986

- 1-4 Underway for Seal Beach, CA.
- 2 Inport Seal Beach CA for ammo offload.
- 2-4 Underway from Seal Beach - Conducting training in SOCAL operation areas.
- 5-31 Inport San Diego.
- 6 Ship's Christmas Party at Admiral Robinson Center.
- 8-11 COMNAVSURFPAC 3-M assist visit. Small Arms Training at NAS Miramar.
- 10 Aviation assist visit, upgraded to Aviation Readiness Evaluation completion.
- 13 Childrens Christmas party onboard THACH.
- 15 Commander, Destroyer Squadron TWENTY-ONE damage control/engineering assessment.