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DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

HELICOPTER MINE COUNTERMEASURES SQUADRON FOURTEEN (HM-14)
FLEET POST OFFICE
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IN REPLY REFER TO:

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From: Commanding Officer, Helicopter Mine Countermeasures Squadron 14
To: Director of Naval History, Aviation History Branch, Washington Navy
Yard, Washington, DC 20374-0571

Subj: SUBMISSION OF 1989 COMMAND HISTORY

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12D

Encl: (1) 1989 Command History for HELMINERON FOURTEEN (HM-14)
(2) Narrative Summary
(3) Change of Command Brochure

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

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Subj: SUBMISSION OF 1989 COMMAND HISTORY

1989 COMMAND HISTORY FOR HELMINERON FOURTEEN (HM-14)

HM-14 is assigned to Helicopter Tactical Wing ONE at Naval Air Station (NAS), Norfolk, Virginia. The "Vanguard" is capable of rapid deployment and can operate from either aviation capable vessels or shore bases to carry out its primary mission of Airborne Mine Countermeasures (AMCM). CDR W. D. Stewart and CDR W. G. Arnold were the Commanding Officers for the year 1989. HM-14 is based at NAS Norfolk, Virginia and flies the Sikorsky RH-53D helicopter but has begun transition to the Sikorsky MH-53E.

January

25 - Received Aircraft Material Condition Inspection (AMCI).

February

27-28 - Received Security Program Inspection.

March

10 - Change of command from CDR W. D. Stewart to CDR W. G. Arnold.

12-17 - Conducted MK-105 operations aboard USS GUAM (LPH-9).

29 - COMNAVAIRLANT Maintenance Management Advisory Team Audit.

April

17-30 - Participated in Exercise "LANTCOOPEX 1-89," Port Canaveral, Florida.

9 - Took delivery of Sikorsky MH-53E, BUNO 163053, (540).

June

5-8 - Conducted MK-105 operations aboard USS NASHVILLE (LPD-13).

July

13 - Took delivery of Sikorsky MH-53E, BUNO 163054, (541).

27 - Received Aircraft Material Condition Inspection.

August

10-13 - Supported "A" school recruiting/Indoc, Memphis, Tennessee with static display.

11 - Supported Sikorsky 50th Anniversary Air Show Bridgeport, Connecticut with static display.

19-23 - Participated in Exercise "FLEETEX 4-89" in Norfolk, Virginia.

Encl (1)

Subj: SUBMISSION OF 1989 COMMAND HISTORY

September

4 - Supported state of Maine Air Show in Brunswick, Maine.

19 - Took delivery of Sikorsky MH-53E, BUNO 163055, (542).

19-29 - Participated in Exercise "First Shield 89" in Lakehurst, New Jersey.

October

13 - Took delivery of Sikorsky MH-53E, BUNO 163056, (543).

November

1 - Supported NHA Gulf Coast Fly-in, Milton, Florida with a static display.

27-30 - AN/ALQ-141 training detachment in Fort Lauderdale, Florida.

December

1-17 - AN/ALQ-141 training detachment in Fort Lauderdale, Florida.

20 - Took delivery of Sikorsky MH-53E BUNO 163057, (544).

Subj: SUBMISSION OF 1989 COMMAND HISTORY

NARRATIVE SUMMARY

January

Squadron prepared for Aircraft Material Inspection (AMCI) and received a grade of outstanding. Specific comment by Wing command was "keep up the good work."

February

Squadron prepared for Security Program Inspection and received a grade of satisfactory.

March

Just after the change of command, HM-14 conducted sustained MK-105 LPH launch and recovery operations aboard USS GUAM (LPH-9) maintaining command readiness for all aircrew, MCM and Tactics personnel. After return from GUAM, HM-14 completed the COMNAVAIRLANT Maintenance Management Advisory Team Audit with no discrepancies found.

April

Deployed to Port Canaveral, Florida for a major exercise involving AMCM, SMCM, EOD, SPECWAR, USMC, USCG and COMSUBLANT submarine assets. HM-14 and SMCM assets conducted combined mine hunting and mine sweeping operations.

May

HM-14 returned from Port Canaveral, Florida at the completion of LANTCOOPEX 1-89 and received a Letter of Commendation from VADM Bacon, COMSUBLANT, and a Letter of Commendation from COMINEDIV 126 for outstanding performance. Began transition to the new Sikorsky MH-53E with delivery of BUNO 163053, the first of 12 aircraft to be received over an 18 month period.

June

Conducted MK-105 LPD well deck launch training aboard USS NASHVILLE (LPD-13) for all launch crews and aircrew to maintain contingency deployment capability and readiness.

July

After taking delivery of aircraft 163054, HM-14 received another Aircraft Material Condition Inspection achieving a grade of satisfactory.

August

In support of FLEETEX 4-89, HM-14 was instrumental in testing a new device that measured the effectiveness of our influence mine sweeping and assessed the

Encl (2)

Subj: SUBMISSION OF 1989 COMMAND HISTORY

probability of damage to surface and airborne minesweeping units. This exercise helped HM-14 to increase command deployment readiness by providing refresher training for aircrew, boat and MK-105 launch personnel.

September

After receiving the third new MH-53E (163055), HM-14 deployed to Lakehurst, New Jersey for Exercise "First Shield 89." AN/AQS-14 operations dominated this exercise with strong emphasis placed on the operation of the Precise Navigation System. Excellent results were obtained and post mission analysis determined that HM-14 located most of the exercise mines. A Letter of Appreciation was received from RADM Rybacki, USCG.

October

While taking delivery of MH-53E 163056, HM-14 began preparing for the AN/ALQ-141 detachment to Fort Lauderdale, Florida.

November-December

Detached to Fort Lauderdale, Florida for initial and re-qualification in the tactical employment of the AN/ALQ-141 mine sweeping system for 36 pilots and 51 aircrewman. HM-14 is the only HM squadron qualified in the 141 system and its tactical employment. Received MH-53E 163057 at the end of December.