

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
U. S. S. JOSEPHUS DANIELS (CG-27)

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From: Commanding Officer, USS JOSEPHUS DANIELS (CG 27)
To: Director of Naval History (OP - 09B9)

Subj: Command History

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Encl: (1) USS JOSEPHUS DANIELS (CG 27) Command History for 1981

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

(b) (6)


By direction

Copy to:
CINCLANTFLT
COMNAVSURFLANT
COMCRUDESGRU EIGHT

ENCLOSURE (1)

COMMAND HISTORY FOR 1981

OPNAV Report 5750-1

On 1 January 1981 USS JOSEPHUS DANIELS was moored at D&S Piers Norfolk, Virginia making final preparations for getting underway to steam south and rendezvous with the aircraft carrier USS FORRESTAL (CV 59) for operations in the Jacksonville operating area. Departing on 5 January 81 the ship reached the operating area and commenced intensive AAW and ASW training on the 12th of January.

The crew celebrated the 6th birthday of NAVSURFLANT with an informal ceremony on the Enlisted Dining Facility with families and friends after the ship moored upon completion of the short training cruise January 23rd.

Upon return to Norfolk the ship commenced an Inport Maintenance Availability with the tender USS YELLOWSTONE (AD 41) and began preparations for a Defense Nuclear Security Inspection (DNSI). Many of the ship's personnel attended schools through the month of February and the rest began planning for the "Caribbean Operation 81" goodwill cruise in the Caribbean and South Atlantic.

On the 9th of March JOSEPHUS DANIELS departed Norfolk, for the visit to our southern neighbors, with members of CINCLANTFLT Staff onboard. As the ship left Hampton Roads it joined up with the USS SPIEGEL GROVE (LSD 32).

The Commander in Chief U.S. Atlantic Fleet, Admiral Harry D. Train II, embarked in JOSEPHUS DANIELS on the 14th of March while the ship was at anchor in Limon Bay, Panama. In addition, Ambassador Robert Anderson, Rear Admiral William McDermott Jr., Captain Dudley Carlson, Captain Larry D. Hamilton, Lieutenant Colonel Rafael Zalles (USMC), and several other staff members arrived onboard in Panama.

Admiral Train remained onboard for port visits to: Cartegena, Columbia; Willemstad, Curacao; and La Guaria, Venezuela. At La Guaria, Venezuela the Commander Naval Surface Forces Atlantic, Vice Admiral John D. Johnson embarked in JOSEPHUS DANIELS on the 26th of March for the remaining visits to Castries, St Lucia; Roseau, Dominica; and Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, where he departed for a return flight to the United States.

Besides the local attractions native to each individual port, a large number of crewmembers engaged in athletic activities with the host nationals. Visiting and general tours were commonplace at most of the port stops and thousands of people visited the JOSEPHUS DANIELS and SPIEGEL GROVE.

During the visit to Dominica JOSEPHUS DANIELS delivered many badly-needed medical supplies to a hospital in Roseau, Dominica which was still recovering from the effects of a recent hurricane.

After the Flag Officers and staff disembarked, JOSEPHUS DANIELS proceeded to Roosevelt Roads, Puerto Rico to fuel and conduct Naval Gunfire Support Exercises on the range at Vieques. The exercises went well and the ship moored pierside for some relaxing liberty on the Naval Station. All tensions created by the strenuous efforts during the "goodwill" cruise were soon released as the entire ship enjoyed a picnic on the beaches at Roosevelt Roads.

From the Caribbean, the ship proceeded to Yorktown, Va. for an ammunition exchange at the Weapons Station. As it departed Yorktown on April 15th, 130 Family members and friends of the crew, along with 30 Naval Junior Reserve Training Cadets rode the ship back to Norfolk for the JOSEPHUS DANIELS' annual Dependent's Cruise.

Inport for only a few weeks, the ship departed on May 4th, with Commander Cruiser Destroyer Group EIGHT, Rear Admiral Richard C. Berry and his staff of 13 officer and 20 enlisted embarked for Solid Shield 81. After operating off the coast of North Carolina for nine days in support of major amphibious exercises, JOSEPHUS DANIELS returned to homeport for five hours on May 13th for personnel transfer and was immediately underway again for COMTUEX 2-81. Ships from Norfolk, Charleston, and Mayport participated in various exercises on a daily basis and the DANIELS and two other ships fired missiles during one exercise. The scenarios were quite realistic and highly effective in increasing our ship's state of readiness.

Returning to Norfolk on May 22nd, JOSEPHUS DANIELS commenced an Import Maintenance Availability with the USS YELLOWSTONE for an upcoming Mediterranean deployment in June.

The ship departed Norfolk on 25 June with Rear Admiral Berry and his staff for the mini-Mediterranean cruise. During the 10-day transit many training exercises took place including General Quarters, Underway Replenishments, Missile and Gun shoots.

On 5 July the ship tied up alongside the USS WAINWRIGHT (CG 28) in Rota, Spain for turnover. The ship pulled out the next day and proceeded in a southeasterly direction towards the Straits of Gibraltar.

After a week of training exercises, in the Med, the ship entered the port of Barcelona, Spain where the crew went on tours and enjoyed liberty in the second largest and chief industrial city of Spain. In addition, while inport Barcelona, Rear Admiral William F. McCauley relieved Rear Admiral Berry as Commander Cruiser Destroyer Group EIGHT on July 17th.

JOSEPHUS DANIELS departed on 22 July and headed south to rendezvous with the USS FORRESTALL and participated in a week of operations with various units of the SIXTH Fleet.

The ship anchored in the Bay of Benidorm on August 3rd. JOSEPHUS DANIELS and the USS MOOSEBRUGGER (DD 980) were the first two U.S. Naval ships to visit Benidorm, Spain in August of 1980 and the second visit provided the same type of friendship. Local officials as well as the media praised the visiting ships and stated that they always look forward to our visits. During our stay, Spain's national television network (RTVE) came onboard and filmed a six-minute documentary that included an interview with the Commanding Officer and the Executive Officer.

The ship weighed anchor and commenced a one-day transit to Toulon, France where the ship tied up pierside across from the USS DETROIT to exchange ammunition via a common spanwire replenishment rig. Liberty was granted and though the visit was brief, all hands had the opportunity to enjoy the fine restaurants and shops of another popular resort city.

The ship departed on 11 August and headed south to rendezvous with other SIXTH Fleet units for coordinated operations with two aircraft carriers in a variety of large-scale exercises in all warfare areas.

The ship arrived in Rota, Spain on 22 August for turnover to the USS BIDDLE (CG 34) and headed west to Bermuda on the following day. Engineering inspectors were received onboard in Bermuda on 1 September to conduct engineering examinations enroute to Norfolk; finally on September 3rd the ship arrived at pier 5 D&S Piers.

Upon arrival, JOSEPHUS DANIELS commenced an IMAV with the USS VULCAN and sent many of the crewmembers to shore-based schools. In addition the ship began preparations for upcoming Yorktown Bicentennial Celebration (YBC) during this inport period.

On 14 October JOSEPHUS DANIELS proceeded to the Virginia Capes where the engineers conducted many casualty control drills throughout the night; and on the 15th the ship anchored in the York river with four other U.S. Naval ships, one British, and two French ships. The Commander Amphibious Squadron FOUR embarked in JOSEPHUS DANIELS that morning as Officer in Charge of the Naval support for the YBC festivities.

Tours were conducted on the DANIELS where the people were shuttled by boats borrowed from the aircraft carriers USS KENNEDY, USS INDEPENDENCE, and the USS EISENHOWER. The thousands of visitors to the ship were indoctrinated in many facets of the basics in shipboard procedures concerning Seamanship, Damage Control, Weapons Systems, Flight Deck operations, and Navigation. Tours were conducted on the 16th through the 19th of October and the visitors were always well-received and the whole operation was tremendously successful.

JOSEPHUS DANIELS proceeded up the York river on October 20th and moored pierside at the Naval Weapons Station for almost two whole days of weapons unloading. The ship was once again underway on the 21st heading towards the VACAPES operating area to conduct more Engineering Casualty Control Drills. returning to Norfolk on the 16th of October for a weekend of liberty before making preparations for READEX 1-82 just two weeks away.

During the preparation period the ship also had a three-day Command Inspection and a 3-M Inspection. The ship's personnel were well-prepared and did well in all areas including a personnel inspection by Commander Destroyer Squadron TEN.

On the morning of 9 November, JOSEPHUS DANIELS and USS BARNEY got underway from Norfolk for READEX 1-82. We were joined by the USS JOHN HANCOCK and USS NICHOLSON from Charleston, S.C. on the 10th and proceeded on a southeasterly course to operating areas northeast of Puerto Rico. The aircraft carriers USS EISENHOWER and USS JOHN F. KENNEDY were awaiting our arrival to begin complex operations that would enhance fleet readiness.

On 14 November units of the task group launched six Harpoon missiles plus two air-launched Standard Arm missiles. The Harpoon missiles were launched from air, surface, and subsurface units and all of the six shots were visually sighted by aircraft and reported as direct hits. JOSEPHUS DANIELS, as flagship for COMDESRON 24, provided the command and control support necessary to coordinate this exercise.

On 20 - 22 November JOSEPHUS DANIELS successfully launched five Terrier missiles and on 23 -24 November conducted Naval Gunfire Support exercises at Vieques, in the Caribbean. After these exercises JOSEPHUS DANIELS proceeded southeast to the island of "Montserrat" for liberty over the Thanksgiving Holiday.

The ship weighed anchor on November 28th heading west to rendezvous with the aircraft carrier USS JOHN F. KENNEDY and conduct Anti-Submarine exercises, firing an exercise torpedo on 29 November. On 2 - 4 December JOSEPHUS DANIELS was tasked with screening the carrier while she conducted an Operational Readiness Evaluation (ORE). After this support JOSEPHUS DANIELS headed towards Roosevelt Roads, Puerto Rico where the ship received stores, mail, parts, and embarked an Engineering Inspection Team that conducted an Operational Propulsion Plant Examination (OPPE) while enroute to Norfolk.

The ship departed Roosevelt Roads on 7 December and arrived at Pier 24 in Norfolk on December 11th and immediately commenced the first of two holiday leave periods. The personnel not on leave began a pre-deployment IMAV with Shore Intermediate Maintenance Activity, Norfolk. This was in preparation for an upcoming deployment to the Indian Ocean in early January 1982.