

1983



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
HELICOPTER MINE COUNTERMEASURES SQUADRON FOURTEEN (HM-14)
FLEET POST OFFICE
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From: Commanding Officer, Helicopter Mine Countermeasures Squadron FOURTEEN
To: Chief of Naval Operations, Naval Aviation History Office (OP-05D2)

Subj: 1983 Command History Report, Submission of

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12C

Encl: (1) 1983 Command History for HELMINERON FOURTEEN (HM-14)

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

C. F. Harrison
C. F. HARRISON

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1983 COMMAND HISTORY FOR HELMINERON FOURTEEN (HM-14)

HM-14 is assigned to Helicopter Tactical Wing ONE at NAS Norfolk, Va. The squadron 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). During 1983 the squadron was commanded by CDR M. G. STEEN and CDR C. F. HARRISON.

January

21 Squadron NATOPS evaluation

February

18-20 Conducted USS IWO JIMA Mine Readiness Certification Inspection (MRCI)

March

13-15 Conducted USS LASALLE MRCI

April

4-6 Advance Party of 1 Officer, 8 Enlisted sent to USS TRIPOLI for advance liaison for WESTPAC deployment.

8 CNO Safety Award and Battle E Award presented by COMNAVAIRLANT

11-13 Admin/MCM advance party of 2 Officer, 6 Enlisted sent to USS TRIPOLI

13 3 Squadron Aircraft launched for ferry to NAS North Island

14 3 Squadron Aircraft launched for ferry to NAS North Island

16-20 C-141/C-5 airlift to NAS North Island, CA.

18 All squadron aircraft arrived North Island

22 Conducted MRCI USS OGDEN (LPD-5)

27 Underway to Hawaii onboard USS TRIPOLI (LPH-10)

May

16-19 HM-14 partially offloaded NAS Barbers Pt. Hawaii to conduct MK-103 operations

23 Underway to Okinawa, Japan

June

7 Arrived Buckner Bay Okinawa, Japan

8-11 Exercise Valiant Blitz

11 HM-14 Change of Command: CDR C. F. HARRISON relieved CDR M. G. STEEN

12 Underway to Subic Bay, R. P.

- 15 Arrive Subic Bay, R. P., commenced offload to NAS Cubi Pt.
- 23 Aircraft static display for COMNAVUSPHIL
- 28 Participated in Combat SAREX, Zimbales R.P.

July

- 5-7 Exercise Battleweek 83-2
- 13-18 Enroute pvst Hong Kong, typhoon evasion to Okinawa, Japan
 - 18 HM-14/TRIPOLI/CTF-76/MAG 36/III MAF dual loadout conference White Beach, Okinawa, Japan
 - 19 Enroute pvst Hong Kong
- 22-24 HM-14 pilots/aircrew observe JMDSF Mutsu Bay annual MINEX
- 26-27 AMCM OPS Subic Bay, R. P.
 - 28 Enroute Okinawa, Japan
 - 30 Arrive Okinawa commence partial offload of AMCM equipment and vehicles

August

- 1 Enroute Korea
- 2-3 Tsushima Straits Dangerous Front Lead Through
- 4-10 Exercise Valiant Usher 83-8K
 - 14 Enroute Okinawa, Japan
 - 16 Arrive Okinawa, onload AMCM equipment, enroute Subic Bay, R. P.
 - 20 Arrive Subic Bay, R. P.
- 22-24 Mid-Cruise Corrosion Inspection conducted by COMFAIRWESTPAC
 - 25 Participated in SAR Operations in South China Sea
- 25-31 MRCI work ups

September

- 1-3 HM-14/TRIPOLI MRCI
 - 4 Backload onboard TRIPOLI
 - 8 Enroute Pusan Korea
 - 12 Offload Pusan, set up Kimhae/Chinhae Korea sites

- 14 Aircraft static display for ROK Officers
- 15-17 MINEX/EODEX 83-4K Chinhae
- 18-20 Ulsan Korea Exploratory OPS/Redeployment to Pohang
- 22-23 Static display and AMCM demonstration for ROK Officers
- 22-25 Pohang clearance operations
- 27 All aircraft HURREVAC to Osan AB Korea
- 30 All aircraft fly aboard TRIPOLI, backload Pohang Korea

October

- 1 Underway for Hawaii
- 14-16 Pvsst Pearl Harbor, Hawaii
- 16 Underway for San Diego, Ca.
- 22 Fly off five squadron aircraft
- 23 Arrive San Diego, Ca.
- 24-29 Offload TRIPOLI/C-5/C-141 airlift Norfolk, Va.
- 24 Commenced squadron post deployment stand down.
- 25 Five aircraft arrive Norfolk, Va.

November

- 2 Sixth aircraft arrived Norfolk, Va.
- 3 Squadron resumed Norfolk based operations
- 14-15 Post Cruise Corrosion Inspection
- 30 Conducted Safety Stand down

December

- 1-2 Conducted air to air refueling with KC-130 aircraft from VMGR 252
- 7-9 Conducted USS RALIEGH MRCI
- 8 Held all hands Christmas Party

NARRATIVE SUMMARY

January

This was a slow month operationally as the squadron flew local area training and received its annual NATOPS evaluation given by the RH-53D NATOPS Evaluator.

February

In February plans for the upcoming WESTPAC deployment were being made and the necessary preparations for the extensive deployment were in work.

March

This month plans were being completed and the pack-up readied for the squadron's departure to the West Coast for deployment while continuing to meet training commitments at home as well as conducting two MRCI's.

April

With the aid of Air Force C-5 Galaxies and C-141 Starlifter aircraft the squadron was moved to San Diego in its entirety to board USS TRIPOLI (LPH-10). All 6 squadron aircraft were self-lifted to NAS North Island for departure on 27 April to Hawaii.

May

While inport Pearl Harbor the squadron concentrated on AMCM work-ups for upcoming exercises. Operations were conducted from NAS Barbers Point until departure for Okinawa, Japan on 23 May.

June

This month the squadron participated in the first of many exercises. While anchored in Buckner Bay, Okinawa Ja., the squadron operated in conjunction with the Fleet Marine Force in Exercise Valiant Blitz. At the conclusion of the exercise, the HM-14 Change of Command was held aboard TRIPOLI and CDR. C. F. HARRISON relieved CDR. M. G. STEEN. In attendance was Captain T. A. CLIFT, Commanding Officer of USS TRIPOLI (LPH-10).

July

Following the very successful Battleweek 83-2 at Subic Bay the squadron took the opportunity to conduct training flights and make port visits. Preparations were also begun for the upcoming shore based operations to be conducted in the Republic of Korea (ROK).

August

With the commencement of Operation Valiant Usher 83-8K the squadron was tasked to live and operate in field conditions and operate on a self-sufficient, independent basis: a first for the AMCM community. The squadron also successfully completed its Mid-Cruise Corrosion Inspection.

September

During Operation MINEX/EODEX 83-4K the squadron was once again tasked to operate in field conditions, this time on two separate occasions in two different areas. It involved the movement of all personnel and aircraft and encompassed 18 days in the field in Korea. At the conclusion of the exercise the squadron reembarked in TRIPOLI and began the transit home.

October

This month marked the culmination of the squadron WESTPAC Cruise with the arrival of TRIPOLI back in San Diego and the offload and fly back of all personnel and equipment to Norfolk.

November

After some well deserved time off, the squadron resumed full time operations and training and also completed their Post Cruise Corrosion Inspection.

December

In December, the squadron closed out the year by re-qualifying aircrew in the unique phase of air-to-air refueling and also conducted MRCI's. The squadron also broke for the Christmas Holidays and held its All Hands party.