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From: Commanding Officer, Helicopter Mine Countermeasures Squadron 14
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Subj: SUBMISSION OF 1987 COMMAND HISTORY

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12D

Encl: (1) 1987 Command History for HELMINERON FOURTEEN (HM-14)
(2) Narrative Summary
(3) Supporting Documents

1. In accordance with reference (a), command history synopsis is provided.

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1987 COMMAND HISTORY FOR HELMINERON FOURTEEN (HM-14)

HM-14 is assigned to Helicopter Tactical Wing ONE at NAS Norfolk, VA. 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 E. A. Saccio commanded HM-14 from 01 January 1987 to 15 December 1987. During the remainder of 1987, the squadron was commanded by CDR W. David Stewart. HM-14 is based at NAS Norfolk, VA. In 1987, HM-14 had ten Sikorsky RH-53D helicopters assigned.

JANUARY

- 25 Deployed five aircraft to Galveston, TX conducting minehunting / minesweeping OPS in support of port breakout exercise. FTX Galveston '87.
- 27 Deployed three aircraft to the Republic of Panama, Panama Canal Zone in support of exercise Kindle Liberty '87.

FEBRUARY

- 15 Completed Galveston, TX exercise.
- 19 Completed Panama Canal exercise.

APRIL

- 21 Conducted minesweeping OPS from the shores of Ft Story, VA in support of exercise Solid Shield '87.
- 23 Deployed three aircraft embarked in USS TRENTON (LPD-14)/MCAS New River conducting minehunting/minesweeping OPS in support of exercise Solid Shield '87.

MAY

- 1 Completed Ft Story exercise.
- 4 Completed MCAS New River Solid Shield '87 exercise.
- 12 Received special recognition from COMNAVAIRLANT for meritorious achievement in aviation safety completing nine years of mishap-free aircraft operations.
- 27 Deployed to MCAS Beaufort, SC to conduct minehunting/minesweeping OPS off Charleston, SC.

JUNE

- 16 Squadron activated 72 alert in response to Persian Gulf mining threat.

JULY

30 HM-14 deployed to the Persian Gulf in response to JCS-tasking
OPORDER Earnest Will.

AUGUST - DECEMBER

Embarked on USS GUADALCANAL. Conducted minesweeping operations
including convoy lead through during Persian Gulf deployment.

DECEMBER

15 HM-14 Change of Command.

NARRATIVE SUMMARY

JANUARY

This month marked a new year for HM-14 as it became the only fleet operational airborne mine countermeasures squadron in the U.S. Navy. The squadron made history operating for the first time in the Panama Canal and capturing the coveted Pathfinder Award for mine countermeasures excellence.

FEBRUARY

A month of extreme operational tempo, the squadron conducted mine-hunting/minesweeping OPS with two five plane detachments simultaneously deployed.

MARCH

This was a month devoted to training evolutions and planning for upcoming detachments.

APRIL

Three aircraft embarked on USS TRENTON to conduct operations near Moorehead City, NC. Three aircraft and personnel then transferred to MCAS New River to complete operations for Solid Shield '87. Aircraft from NAS Norfolk provided support from beach sites located at Ft Story, VA.

MAY

The squadron was recognized by COMNAVAIRLANT for completing nine years of accident-free aircraft operations. Deployed to Beaufort, SC to conduct minehunting operations in a practice minefield near Charleston, SC.

JUNE

The squadron began loadout procedures in anticipation of rapid deployment to the Persian Gulf.

JULY

HM-14 deployed to the Persian Gulf transporting eight aircraft and nearly 400 personnel utilizing Air Force C-5A aircraft.

AUGUST - DECEMBER

During these months high tempo operations including minesweeping and convoy lead throughs were conducted on a daily basis. First live moored mines were swept since the Korean Conflict. First ever by Airborne Mine Countermeasures units.

NOVEMBER

Fifty percent of the squadrons personnel were airlifted to Norfolk, VA to facilitate an extended personnel rotation plan.

DECEMBER

Commander E. A. Saccio was relieved by Commander W. D. Stewart during formal Change of Command ceremony at NAS Norfolk.