



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
COMMANDING OFFICER
USS ALBANY (SSN 753)
FPO AE 09564-2409

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From: Commanding Officer, USS ALBANY (SSN 753)
To: Director of Naval History (N09BH), Washington Navy Yard
901 M Street, SE, Washington, D.C. 20374-5060

Subj: USS ALBANY (SSN 753) COMMAND HISTORY FOR CALENDAR YEAR 1998

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12F

Encl: (1) USS ALBANY (SSN 753) Command History for Calendar Year 1998

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

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Brian O'Neill".

Brian O'Neill

1. Command Composition and Organization:

a. Mission:

(1) USS ALBANY (SSN 753) is the 43rd ship of the Los Angeles class.

(2) The 360 ft long, 6900 ton ship is well equipped to accomplish any assigned mission. Faster than her predecessors, she is equipped with "State of the Art" highly accurate sensors and weapons control systems. She is armed with sophisticated MK 48 anti-submarine torpedoes, Advanced Capability (ADCAP) torpedoes, mines, and twelve vertical launch tubes in the bow which carry TOMAHAWK cruise missiles. USS ALBANY carries a complement of 139 crew members (14 officers and 125 enlisted men).

b. Organizational Structure

(1) Immediate Senior Commands:

Commander, Submarine Force, U.S. Atlantic Fleet-
VADM E. Giambastiani

Commander, Submarine Group TWO- RADM J. Padgett, III
Commander, Submarine Squadron SIX- CAPT W. Ostendorff
Commanding Officer- CDR Brian C. O'Neill

(2) Permanent Duty Station: Norfolk, Virginia.

2. Chronology:

<u>Dates</u>	<u>Events</u>
01-01-98 to 01-05-98	holiday stand-down
01-01-98 to 02-18-98	SRA in dry-dock resolute (AFDM 10)
02-19-98 to 02-26-98	moored in Norfolk VA
02-27-98 to 03-02-98	sea trials
03-02-98 to 03-04-98	transit to port Canaveral, FL
03-04-98 to 03-06-98	moored Canaveral, FL
03-06-98	VIP orientation cruise
03-06-98 to 03-09-98	transit to AUTECH
03-10-98 to 03-11-98	sound trials in AUTECH
03-11-98 to 03-13-98	transit to Norfolk VA
03-14-98 to 03-19-98	moored in Norfolk VA
03-20-98 to 03-23-98	transit to AUTECH
03-23-98	ADCAP torpedo proficiency
03-24-98 to 03-30-98	operations in AUTECH
03-31-98 to 04-02-98	transit to Norfolk VA
04-02-98 to 04-05-98	moored in Norfolk, VA
04-06-98 to 04-26-98	spruce in Norfolk, VA
04-27-98 to 05-01-98	transit to Roosevelt Roads, PR
05-01-98 to 05-05-98	moored Roosevelt Roads, PR
05-05-98 to 05-09-98	PCO operations in AFWTF
05-09-98 to 05-10-98	moored port Roosevelt Roads, PR
05-11-98 to 05-15-98	PCO operations in AFWTF
05-16-98 to 05-22-98	transit to Norfolk, VA
05-23-98 to 06-21-98	upkeep in Norfolk, VA
06-22-98 to 06-26-98	underway ISO operation ellipse Alfa
06-27-98 to 06-28-98	moored Norfolk, VA
06-29-98 to 07-02-98	SSN POM workup support

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07-03-98 to 07-06-98	moored Norfolk, VA
07-07-98 to 07-09-98	tactical readiness evaluation
07-10-98 to 07-12-98	moored Norfolk, VA
07-13-98 to 07-17-98	SSN POM cert support
07-18-98 to 07-19-98	moored Norfolk, VA
07-20-98 to 07-24-98	CORTRAMID
07-25-98 to 08-24-98	first pre-overseas movement upkeep
08-25-98 to 08-29-98	sea trials
08-30-98 to 08-31-98	moored in Norfolk VA
09-01-98 to 09-03-98	underway in VCOAs
09-04-98	dependents cruise
09-05-98 to 09-07-98	moored Norfolk, VA
09-08-98 to 09-14-98	underway in VCOAs
09-15-98	moored in Norfolk VA
09-16-98 to 09-17-98	operational reactor safeguards examination
09-18-98 to 09-22-98	moored Norfolk, VA
09-23-98 to 09-25-98	transit to Groton, CT
09-26-98 to 10-12-98	Pre-deployment training sub school and battery replacement
10-13-98 to 10-22-98	POM at sea basic scenarios
10-23-98 to 12-15-98	second pre-overseas movement upkeep
12-16-98 to 12-18-98	sea trials
12-19-98 to 12-31-98	holiday stand down

3. Narrative.

USS ALBANY (SSN 753) started off the year in the dry-dock RESOLUTE during Selective Restrictive Availability (SRA) 2-1 conducted by the Norfolk Naval Shipyard. After two and a half months in the dry-dock, extensive repairs were completed on the ship including shaft, propeller and sonar dome replacements. Following SRA, the ship conducted Sea Trials in the Virginia Cape OPAREAs and returned to a fully operational status.

In March, the ship proceeded to Port Canaveral, Florida for crew liberty including a ship's picnic and a VIP orientation cruise for French Admiral Nerzic (chief of the French Military Mission at SACLANT). A short transit took the ship to the Atlantic Undersea Test and Evaluation Center (AUTEC) in the Bahamian Tongue of the Ocean. Engineers from Naval Surface Warfare Center, Carderock Detachment boarded ALBANY for the conduct of Acoustic Trials. After a brief stop home in Norfolk, the ship returned to AUTEC for a series of operations including ORANGE force support for a Tactical Readiness Evaluation and a MK 48 ADCAP Torpedo Proficiency Certification. While operating in the Tongue of the Ocean, the ship conducted exercises under British Navy OPCON using Royal Navy water space management rules.

A return to home port led to the conduct of a SPRUCE while moored in Norfolk, Virginia. The ship was particularly successful in utilizing the new SPRUCE barge and its newly installed powder coating equipment. On 27 April, USS ALBANY got underway for transit to Roosevelt Roads, Puerto Rico to embark the first of two groups of Submarine Prospective Commanding Officers (PCO) including the PCO Instructor Commander Lotring. Two weeks were spent on the Atlantic Fleet Weapons Test Facility (AFWTF) Range during the conduct of PCO Operations. Exercises included periscope approaches on ORANGE surface warships, sonar approaches on ORANGE force SSNs, and special warfare operations using Navy SEALs. During the conduct of PCO Operations, ALBANY

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successfully launched and recovered twenty-four exercise ADCAP torpedoes during a wide variety of tactical encounters.

After the completion of operations in the Puerto Rican OPAREAs, the ship returned to Norfolk for an upkeep conducted by the Intermediate Maintenance Activity onboard USS EMORY S. LAND (AS-39). The rest of the summer was spent performing several weekly operations including CORTRAMID, ELLIPSE ALFA, and Pre-overseas Movement support as ORANGE force SSN. During CORTRAMID, the ship hosted 45 midshipmen from a variety of colleges and universities across the country. At least half of these individuals voiced a strong interest in a possible career in the submarine force after riding ALBANY. Also of note, ELLIPSE ALFA was a U.S. Atlantic Command sponsored exercise.

ALBANY commenced its own Pre-overseas Movement preparations and received various installations in support of the upcoming six month North Atlantic deployment. The ship transited to Groton, Connecticut for two weeks of Predeployment Training provided by Submarine School. While in Groton, the ship replaced the battery. This was necessary because a shift in the upcoming deployment from late April to early February 1999. The crew was given the opportunity to put theory into practice during two weeks of Basic At Sea Scenarios. The end of the year saw USS ALBANY finish a second POM Upkeep followed by a Sea Trials and holiday stand down. The crew finished last minute preparations for an anticipated deployment date in February 1999.

4. Supporting Documents:

- a. Welcome Aboard Pamphlet
- b. Biography and Photograph of Commanding Officer
- c. Photograph of USS ALBANY (SSN 753)