

EXECUTIVE CORRESPONDENCE



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
USS ANTIETAM (CG 54)
FLEET POST OFFICE
SAN FRANCISCO 96660-1174

IN REPLY REFER TO:

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From: Commanding Officer, USS ANTIETAM (CG 54)
To: Director of Naval History
Commander, Naval Surface Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet

Subj: COMMAND HISTORY
Commander, Naval Surface Group, Fort Meade, DA

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12D
OPERATIONAL

Encl: In (1) 1988 Command History Package - (UNCLASSIFIED portions only)

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

Commander, Task Force Seven Zero

Commander, Task Group Seven Zero Fl

P. J. Coady
P. J. COADY

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COMMAND COMPOSITION AND ORGANIZATION

Commander in Chief, U.S. Pacific Fleet

ADMINISTRATIVE

Commander, Naval Surface Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet

Commander, Naval Surface Group, Long Beach CA

OPERATIONAL

Commander, Third Fleet

OPERATIONAL (Deployed, Western Pacific and Indian Oceans)

Commander, Seventh Fleet

Commander, Task Force Seven Zero

Commander, Task Group Seven Zero Pt Two

Commanding Officer
Capt Philip J. Coady

Executive Officer
Lcdr Michael N. Ward

Operations Officer Lcdr [REDACTED]	Combat Systems Officer Lcdr [REDACTED]	Engineer Officer Lt [REDACTED]	Supply Officer Lcdr [REDACTED]
Weapons Officer Lt [REDACTED]			

HOMEPORT: Naval Station Long Beach
Long Beach, CA

AIRCRAFT ASSIGNED: HSL 43 Det 3
Officer in Charge: Lcdr [REDACTED]

COMMANDING OFFICER

EXECUTIVE OFFICER

OPERATIONS	COMBAT SYSTEMS	ENGINEERING	SUPPLY	AIR
OC DIVISION	CA DIVISION	A DIVISION	S-1 DIVISION	
OD DIVISION	CE DIVISION	E DIVISION	S-2 DIVISION	
OE DIVISION	CG DIVISION	R DIVISION	S-3 DIVISION	
OI DIVISION	CM DIVISION	MP DIVISION	S-4 DIVISION	
ON DIVISION	CS DIVISION			
	CT DIVISION			

OC DIVISION - COMMUNICATIONS
LT [REDACTED]

OD DIVISION - DECK
LT [REDACTED]
ENS [REDACTED]

OE DIVISION - ELECTRONIC WARFARE/CRYPTO
CWO2 [REDACTED]

OI DIVISION - COMBAT INFORMATION
LT [REDACTED]
ENS [REDACTED]

ON DIVISION - NAVIGATION/SHIP'S ADMINISTRATION
LT [REDACTED]
LT [REDACTED]

CA DIVISION - ANTI-SUBMARINE WARFARE
LT [REDACTED]
ENS [REDACTED]

CE DIVISION - ELECTRONIC REPAIR
LT [REDACTED]

CG DIVISION - GUNNERY
LT [REDACTED]
ENS [REDACTED]

CM DIVISION - SPY-1A RADAR/AEGIS
LT [REDACTED]

CS DIVISION - SYSTEMS TEST/IC SYSTEMS
LTJG [REDACTED]

CT DIVISION - VLS/TOMAHAWK
LT [REDACTED]

A DIVISION - AUXILIARIES
CWO2 [REDACTED]

E DIVISION - ELECTRICAL
ENS [REDACTED]

R DIVISION - DAMAGE CONTROL
LTJG [REDACTED]
ENS [REDACTED]

MP DIVISION - GAS TURBINE PROPULSION
LT [REDACTED]
LTJG [REDACTED]

S-1 DIVISION - STORES
SUPPLY OFFICER

S-2 DIVISION - FOOD SERVICE
SUPPLY OFFICER

S-3 DIVISION - SHIP'S SERVICE
LTJG [REDACTED]

S-4 DIVISION - DISBURSING
LTJG [REDACTED]

MISSION - ANTI-AIR WARFARE
ANTI-SUBMARINE WARFARE
ANTI-SURFACE WARFARE
STRIKE WARFARE

ANTIETAM, equipped with the AN/SPY-1A phased array radar, the AEGIS combat system, and the Vertical Launching System, is one of the premier Anti-Air Warfare (AAW) platforms in today's Navy. Combined with an impressive Command and Control capability, featuring four large screen displays, ten automated status boards and seventeen NTDS consoles, all driven by the AEGIS combat system, ANTIETAM more than matches the requirements of a Battle Group Anti-Air Warfare Commander. In addition to this unprecedented AAW capability, ANTIETAM is equipped with state of the art in the area of Anti-Submarine Warfare (ASW). The AN/SQR-19 Towed Array Sonar and the LAMPS III helicopter combine to provide the best in offensive and defensive long range ASW. To complement the other warfare areas, ANTIETAM is equipped with the Tomahawk Weapon System and Harpoon Weapon System providing a comprehensive "over the horizon" warfare capability.

CHRONOLOGY

DATE	EVENT
08 JAN 88	Post Shakedown Availability Todd Shipyard, San Perdo, CA
03 MAR 88	Post Shakedown Availability Sea Trials Southern California OPAREAS
08 MAR 88	Post Shakedown Availability Completed
08 MAR 88	Return to Naval Station Long Beach, CA
16 MAR 88 - 25 MAR 88	CNO Project K-124, 463 DT-IIK, 623 DT-IIID Southern California OPAREAS
30 MAR 88 - 01 APR 88	K-644-9024 Nuclear Weapon Refresher Training Naval Station Long Beach
05 APR 88	Harpoon Weapon System Certified
10 APR 88 - 23 APR 88	CNO Project 463 OT-IIF, OTL-35/42, OTL-50 Southern California OPAREAS
10 APR 88 - 11 APR 88	Representative Beverly Byron (R-MD) Visit Underway for Southern California OPAREAS
09 APR 88 - 10 APR 88	Nuclear Weapons Assist Team Visit Naval Station Long Beach, CA
10 MAY 88 - 14 MAY 89	ISIC Engineering Readiness Assessment
12 MAY 88	ENCOUNTEREX with USS PERMIT Southern California OPAREAS
17 MAY 88 - 22 MAY 88	Seattle Maritime Festival Seattle, WA
23 MAY 88 - 24 MAY 88	ASW Training Readiness Evaluation for USS ALABAMA Northern Pacific OPAREAS
01 JUN 88 - 03 JUN 88	Nuclear Weapon Acceptance Inspection Naval Station Long Beach, CA
07 JUN 88 - 08 JUN 88	Tomahawk Tactical Qualification Naval Station Long Beach, CA
13 JUN 88 - 27 Jun 88	RIMPAC '88 Phase I Southern California OPAREAS
30 JUN 88	Dependent's Cruise from San Diego, CA to Long Beach, CA
06 JUL 88 - 18 JUL 88	RIMPAC '88 Phase II Hawaiian OPAREAS

21 JUL 88 CINC PACFLT Luncheon onboard ANTIETAM
Pearl Harbor, HI

27 JUL 88 - K-310
01 AUG 88 Enroute Hawaii to Long Beach

02 SEP 88 Commence Deployment to Western Pacific and Indian Oceans

04 SEP 88 - Northern Transit/Sea of Japan Operations/Olympic Presence
19 SEP 88

21 SEP 88 - Inport Yokosuka, Japan
26 SEP 88

28 SEP 88 - Inport Pusan, South Korea
30 SEP 88

05 OCT 88 Battle Group Bravo RDVU

07 OCT 88 - Inport Subic Bay, RP
12 OCT 88

17 OCT 88 - Inport Hong Kong
20 OCT 88

24 OCT 88 Transit Malacca Strait

07 NOV 88 - Straits of Hormuz Eastern Patrol Area (SOHEPA) Operations
18 NOV 88

03 DEC 88 Secretary of Defense, John Carlucci visit

06 DEC 88 - Alongside USS PRAIRIE for Tender Availability
13 DEC 88 Gulf of Oman

15 DEC 88 - SOHEPA Operations
21 DEC 88

31 DEC 88 Inport Singapore

08 JAN 88 Post Shakedown Availability, see encl (1)

In January 1988 ANTIETAM commenced her Post Shakedown Availability (PSA), the last step in the long process from construction to full operational readiness. During PSA emphasis was placed on the completion and correction of those items still outstanding from construction and marked the final contract responsibility for Ingalls Shipbuilding, ANTIETAM's builder. Just as important however were numerous alterations and engineering changes that had either been delayed from initial construction or had been developed since.

16 MAR 88 - CNO Projects K-124, 463 DT-IIK, 623 DT-IIID, see encl (2)
25 MAR 88 and (3).

30 MAR 88 - K-644-9024 Nuclear Weapons Refresher Training
01 APR 88

As the first of three steps in attaining full Nuclear Weapons Certification, a team of instructors/inspectors from Nuclear Weapons Training Group Pacific visited ANTIETAM in late March of 1988. The primary thrust of their visit was a thorough review ANTIETAM's Nuclear Weapons Program and assistance and training in those areas where deficiencies were discovered. No grade was given as this was merely a training visit, however ANTIETAM's Nuclear Weapons Program was judged to be healthy with relatively few discrepancies noted.

10 APR 88 - CNO Projects 463 OT-IIF, OTL-35/42, OTL-50, see encl (4)
23 APR 88 through (10).

10 APR 88 - Representative Beverly Byron (R-MD) Visit
11 APR 88

ANTIETAM was honored in early April when Rep. Beverly Byron, the ship's commissioning sponsor paid a visit to "her" ship as it got underway from Long Beach, CA enroute to operations in the southern California OPEAREAS. Rep. Byron and her husband spent the night onboard as the guests of Capt. Coady and were transported back to Long Beach the next morning via ANTIETAM's LAMPS III helicopter.

08 MAY 88 - Nuclear Weapons Assist Team (NWAT) Visit, see encl (11)
10 MAY 88

The second step in attaining Nuclear Weapons Certification was a visit by the Nuclear Weapons Assist Team (NWAT) from COMNAVSURFPAC, San Diego, CA. NWAT thoroughly reviewed every area of ANTIETAM's Nuclear Weapons Program to ensure they met the criteria of the COMNAVSURFPAC Nuclear Weapon Management Manual and CNO directives. although this was an assist visit, the inspection provided excellent insight into the requirements for the upcoming Nuclear Weapons Acceptance Inspection scheduled for early June. ANTIETAM's program was reported to be excellent with few areas requiring added attention.

10 MAY 88 - ISIC Engineering Readiness Assessment
14 MAY 88

ANTIETAM'S first IERA was conducted during the ship's transit to San Francisco. In the spirit of COMNAVSURFPAC's "Continuum of Training", the ship presented two watch sections composed of new watchstanders who had not been in those positions during the Operational Propulsion Plant Examination in November 1987. Above Average and Average grades were received in all areas with special comment on the enthusiasm and level of training of the new watchstanders.

12 MAY 88 ASW ENCOUNTEREX with USS PERMIT

The first event of ANTIETAM's transit to the Seattle Maritime Festival was an ENCOUNTEREX with the the attack submarine USS PERMIT. ANTIETAM departed Long Beach on the evening of 12 MAY and soon thereafter deployed it's towed array. PERMIT was positioned along ANTIETAM's track with the goal of setting an ambush for ANTIETAM upon initial detection. ANTIETAM's LAMPS III helicopter was airborne acting as a pouncer; ready to conduct localization as soon as the towed array gained initial contact. Detection, however, was complicated by the high density of surface traffic in and around the exercise area north of San Nicolas Island. Initial detection was gained as the PERMIT came to periscope depth to conduct an attack against another surface unit close to ANTIETAM. Up to this point, PERMIT had not detected ANTIETAM and was unaware that she was close by. Unfortunately, LAMPS was on deck being refueled as PERMIT gained visual contact. ANTIETAM maintained contact and detected PERMIT's maueuver to attack. Shortly thereafter LAMPS was launched and directed to the intersection of ANTIETAM's towed array line of bearing and the location of PERMIT's last attack. As LAMPS was in the final stages of localization prior to attack, PERMIT reported the completion of it's attack on ANTIETAM.

17 MAY 88 - Seattle Maritime Festival

22 MAY 88

As the Navy's official representative to the Seattle Maritime Festival, ANTIETAM was a major player in this relatively new event. In addition to the numerous daily events sponsored by the City of Seattle, ANTIETAM was the official "guest ship" and open daily for visiting by the general public. Over 12,000 people took advantage of this and braved long lines and occasional rain to see the Navy's newest AEGIS cruiser.

23 MAY 88 - ASW Training Readiness Evaluation for USS ALABAMA,

24 MAY 88 see encl (12).

01 JUN 88 - Nuclear Weapons Acceptance Inspection (NWA), see encl (13).

03 JUN 88

The final step in ANTIETAM's Nuclear Weapon Certification came with the successful completion of the Nuclear Weapons Acceptance Inspection conducted by inspectors from the Nuclear Weapons Training Group Pacific. Every facet of ANTIETAM's Nuclear Weapon Program was inspected in minute detail. Procedures were demonstrated, records were examined, and tests were administered to selected personnel. All areas were judged either excellent or outstanding.

07 JUN 88 - Tomahawk Tactical Qualification see encl (14).

With the Nuclear Weapon Certification granted, ANTIETAM could now conduct the last step prior to final qualification as a fully capable Tomahawk Cruise Missile Platform. Having completed the conventional tactical qualification in 1987, all that remained was to verify ANTIETAM's ability to conduct engagements with the TLAM-N version of the Tomahawk Cruise Missile. Inspectors from the Cruise Missile Tactical Qualification Team spent conducted the qualification and ANTIETAM completed the Tomahawk Nuclear Qualification process with only two minor discrepancies.

13 JUN 88 - RIMPAC '88 Phase I see encl (15).

27 JUN 88

06 JUL 88 - RIMPAC '88 Phase II see encl (15).

18 JUL 88

04 SEP 88 - Northern Transit/Sea of Japan Operations/Olympic Support
19 SEP 88 see encl (16).

After departing Long Beach, CA on 2 SEP, ANTIETAM commenced a transit north to rendezvous with USS NIMITZ and USS CALIFORNIA off the coast of Washington state early on the morning of 4 SEP. With secrecy the goal, ANTIETAM, NIMITZ, and CALIFORNIA then commenced a covert high speed transit to the Sea of Japan remaining undetected until their sudden appearance in the Tsugaro Straits on 13 SEP. Remaining in total electronic emission silence and transiting at an average speed of 25 knots, total surprise was achieved. Upon arrival, ANTIETAM, NIMITZ, and CALIFORNIA commenced operations to provide a strong naval presence for the Olympic Games being held in Seoul, South Korea and conduct coordinated operations in the Sea of Japan with elements of the USS MIDWAY Battle Group, The Self Defense Forces of Japan, and the Armed Forces of South Korea.

21 SEP 88 - Inport Yokosuka, Japan
26 SEP 88

ANTIETAM was forced to cut short it's participation in the Sea of Japan Operations (Olympic Support) and pull into the Ship Repair Facility, Yokosuka Japan when the oil seal in the thrust bearing of #2 main reduction gear failed. USS BUNKER HILL was detailed out of Yokosuka to replace ANTIETAM as Anti-Air Warfare Commander while repairs were being completed. After the oil seal had been replaced, ANTIETAM joined the USS MIDWAY Battle Group enroute to Pusan, South Korea.

05 OCT 88 Battle Group BRAVO Rendezvous

Composition of Battle Group BRAVO: USS NIMITZ, USS ANTIETAM, USS CALIFORNIA, USS BENJAMIN STODDERT, USS WADDELL, USS BARBEY, USS MARS, USS WILLAMETTE, USS KISKA. As part of the diversion for the Sea of Japan operations, the balance of Battle Group BRAVO transited to the Western Pacific following the conventional route via Pearl Harbor. This marked the first time Battle Group BRAVO had assembled since RIMPAC '88. After the rendezvous, the battle group proceeded south to Subic Bay, RP.

07 NOV 88 - Straits of Hormuz Eastern Patrol Area (SOHEPA) Operations
18 NOV 88

On 7 NOV ANTIETAM relieved USS REID as SOHEPA gateguard. Included in this duty was the responsibility to accompany United States flagged merchant vessels transiting the Straits of Hormuz into the Persian Gulf. ANTIETAM's specific responsibility was to ensure the safety of these vessels as they passed the Iranian Silkworm Cruise Missile sites located along the transit route. Depending on the mission, ANTIETAM would either rendezvous with the merchant vessel in SOHEPA and accompany them into the Persian Gulf for turnover to a Ship assigned to Commander, Middle East Force or transit into the Persian Gulf and accompany them out. During this period, ANTIETAM participated in 5 missions involving 11 vessels. As SOHEPA gateguard, ANTIETAM was also charged with identifying other shipping as it passed into or out of the Persian Gulf. On the morning of 18 NOV, ANTIETAM was relieved as SOHEPA gateguard by USS BENJAMIN STODDERT.

03 DEC 88 Secretary of Defense, John Carlucci visit

While on a visit to Oman, the Secretary of Defense took the opportunity to visit NIMITZ and ANTIETAM on patrol duties in the Gulf of Oman. Although his visit to ANTIETAM was relatively short, he did manage to reenlist one ANTIETAM sailor and present medals to several others. He paused on the forecandle to address the assembled crew and express his appreciation for the fine job the crew of ANTIETAM was performing while in the Indian Ocean area.

06 DEC 88 - Alongside USS PRAIRIE for Tender Availability
13 DEC 88

As part of the deployed forces to the Gulf of Oman, USS PRAIRIE provides on the spot repair service for ships assigned duties in the Gulf of Oman. Anchored off the coast of Masirah, PRAIRIE not only provided top notch repair facilities but also provided a much needed break for the crew of ANTIETAM. ANTIETAM tied up alongside the anchored PRAIRIE the morning of 13 DEC and immediately commenced an intensive availability package. In the short time alongside, a total of 293 jobs were completed.

15 DEC 88 - SOHEPA Operations.
21 DEC 88

On the morning of 15 DEC ANTIETAM relieved the USS CALIFORNIA for one last tour as SOHEPA gateguard. With the cooling of tensions in the area and the apparent success of the Iran-Iraq cease-fire, direction had changed as to the type of escort U.S. warships would provide to U.S. flagged vessels. The emphasis had changed from accompany to monitor operations. This allowed for a reduction in the number of U.S. warships involved in the "monitor" operations since one warship could now cover several merchant vessels. The exception was the SOHEPA section of the transit to and from the Persian Gulf. As the Iranian Silkworm Cruise Missiles were still a serious threat, the SOHEPA ship would continue to accompany vessels through the Straits of Hormuz. During this time, ANTIETAM was involved in 3 missions and accompanied 5 vessels.