



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

USS ANZIO (CG 68)
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From: Commanding Officer, USS ANZIO (CG 68)
To: Director of Naval History (N09BH), Washington Navy Yard,
901 M Street, SE, Washington, DC 20374-5060

Subj: COMMAND HISTORY

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12E

Encl: (1) Command History for 2000
(2) Command News Articles
(3) CNSL 2000 JO Shiphandling Award
(4) CCDG-8 2000 Sailor of the Year Selection
(5) 2000 Retention Excellence Award
(6) Welcome Aboard pamphlet

1. In accordance with reference (a), enclosures (1) through (3) are submitted for historical record.



W. F. BARNES

Copy to:
COMNAVSURFLANT
COMCRUDESGRU EIGHT

"ANZIO, STAND AND FIGHT"

1. COMMAND COMPOSITION AND ORGANIZATION

USS ANZIO (CG 68) is a Ticonderoga Class guided missile cruiser prepared to conduct prompt, sustained combat operations at sea in support of Carrier Battlegroups, Surface Action Groups, Amphibious Readiness Groups, and as a traditional Maritime Interdiction Force. ANZIO can operate in any threat environment: Anti-Air, Surface, Submarine, and Strike Warfare are all primary mission areas. Additionally, her unmatched Command and Control suite and numerous new technology systems, makes her the most formidable warship afloat.

ANZIO's diverse combat capability is orchestrated by the AEGIS Weapon system, the only fully integrated electronic detection, engagement and fire control system in the world today. AEGIS enables the ship to detect, evaluate and engage an enemy with the greatest firepower and accuracy of any combat system. The AEGIS revolution is keyed by the AN/SPY-1B (SPY) Phased Array Radar System, which provides continuous search and track capability against hundreds of targets to ranges beyond 200 miles. Her Combat Systems suite also includes the Vertical Launch System (VLS), which houses the Standard Missile (SM-2) for air engagements, the Tomahawk Land Attack Cruise Missile (TLAM) for long-range, precision strikes against land targets, and the Vertically Launched Anti-Submarine Rocket (ASROC) for long-range submarine attacks. Rapid-fire 5-inch gun mounts, Phalanx gatling guns, torpedoes, and Harpoon anti-ship missiles supplement VLS firepower. The AN/SQS-53C hull mounted sonar, acoustic towed array, and two SH-60B Light Airborne Multi-Purpose (LAMPS III) Seahawk helicopters combine to produce underwater detection and extended-range prosecution of submarines.

ANZIO is homeported in Norfolk, Virginia, and is commanded by Captain William F. Barns. The ship and her crew are assigned to Commander, Cruiser Destroyer Group Eight, Rear Admiral John W. Townes III.

2. HISTORY OF KEY EVENTS 2000

DATE	EVENT
01-12 Jan	Holiday Leave and Upkeep
03-14 Jan	Hellfire Missile (Prototype) Stowage Modification
19-21 Jan	Underway - PCMS Testing
22 Jan - 17 Feb	Preoverseas Movement Upkeep
18 Feb - 18 Aug	COMIKEBATGRU JTF 00-1 Mediterranean Deployment
18 Feb - 01 Mar	Transit - SAG Commander
29 Feb - 05 Mar	JMC-001
01 Mar	INCHOP - CINCUSNAVEUR
02-04 Mar	NSFS Qualification - Cape Wrath, Scotland

06-10 Mar	Port Visit – Portsmouth, England
13 Mar	INCHOP - COMSIXTHFLT
15-18 Mar	Exercise Shark Hunt
20-23 Mar	Port Visit – Palma, Spain
23-29 Mar	Exercise PIONEER II
28-29 Mar	Exercise AMPLE TRAIN
30 Mar – 02 Apr	Port Visit – Cannes, France
01-13 Apr	FBE-GOLF Experiment
11-13 Apr	Exercise Noble Suzanne
25-30 Apr	Adriatic Operations
14-18 Apr	Port Visit Limassol, Cyprus
21-24 Apr	Port Visit Souda Bay, Crete
25-28 Apr	Exercise Jack Howl
26 Apr – 07 May	“BW” ISO Adriatic W/IKEBATGRU
01-05 May	Port Visit – Koper, Slovenia
6-10 May	Adriatic Operations
12-17 May	Port Visit – Catania, Sicily
19-22 May	Port Visit – Izmir, Turkey
21 May	Dynamic Mix 00 PRE-SAIL Conference
22 May – 02 Jun	Dynamic MIX-OPFOR Commander
30 May – 18 Aug	Midshipmen Cruise
03 Jun	Dynamic Mix 00 Hot Wash – Souda Bay, Crete
03-05 Jun	Port Visit - Souda Bay, Crete
06-09 Jun	Port Visit - Rhodes, Greece
12-16 Jun	Port Visit - Zakynthos, Greece
26 Jun – 03 Jul	FMAV – LaMaddalena, Sardinia
05 Jul – 08 Jul	Adriatic Ops
11-17 Jul	Port Visit – Cannes, France
18-21 Jul	Adriatic Ops
21-27 Jul	Port Visit - Dubrovnik, Croatia
04-08 Aug	Port Visit - Palma, Spain
09-17 Aug	Atlantic Transit
17-18 Aug	Tiger Cruise
18 Aug	Aviation Offload
18 Aug – 17 Sep	Post Deployment Leave and Upkeep
29 Sep	Family Day Cruise
19-20 Sep	CEC Conference
19-22 Sep	Multi TADIL Conference
21-28 Sep	Underway-CEC Testing
29 Sep – 24 Oct	Inport Norfolk-Upkeep
02 Oct	National Defense University Capstone Visit
06-09 Nov	Underway Virginia Capes Operating Area – CO’s Time
07 Nov	PCMS Range Testing
08 Nov	Deck Landing Qualification services with HCS-4
08 Nov	CEC Testing with ACSC Wallops Island
10-27 Nov	Inport Norfolk
21 Nov	LMRC Dedication to Mr. Loren “Woody” Hoercher
28 Nov – 15 Dec	Underway ISO CEC 11
28 Nov	ULM-4 Range
30 Nov – 01 Dec	Inport Mayport, Fl – CEC Presail Conference
16-31 Dec	Inport Norfolk – Holiday Leave and Upkeep

3. COMMAND HISTORY NARRATIVE

The year 2000 began with the officers and crew of ANZIO enjoying the second half of the 1999 Holiday Leave and Upkeep period. During that period, the ship received a Hellfire Missile (Prototype) Stowage Modification. The alteration was made to enable the ship to safely carry the Hellfire missile during the upcoming deployment with USS DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER (CVN 69) Battle Group. ANZIO's only underway in the month of January was for PCMS (Passive Countermeasure System) testing in the Virginia Capes Operations Area (VACAPES). The testing helped determine the ship's overall PCMS condition. As the first month of the new millennium came to a close, ANZIO began deployment Pre-Overseas Movement (POM) Leave and Upkeep.

At the conclusion of POM, ANZIO said goodbye to family and friends, and departed Norfolk on 18 February for USS DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER (CVN 69) Battle Group JTF 00-1 Mediterranean Deployment. COMIKEBATGRU consisted of USS DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER (CVN 69), with Commander, Cruiser Destroyer Group EIGHT, Rear Admiral J. Foley II, embarked; USS ANZIO (CG68), USS CAPE ST GEORGE (CG 71), USS MAHAN (DDG 72), USS LABOON (DDG 58), USS BARRY (DDG 52), USS ARTHUR W. RADFORD (DD 968), USS SAMUEL B. ROBERTS (FFG 58), USS KAUFFMAN (FFG 59), USS SPRINGFIELD (SSN 761), USS HARTFORD (SSN 768), USNS MOUNT BAKER (T-AE 34), and USNS KANAWHA (T-AO 196). Also deploying with COMIKEBATGRU was an Amphibious Ready Group (ARG) led by USS WASP (LHD 1), and including USS TRENTON (LPD 14) and USS OAK HILL (LSD 51).

Upon leaving Norfolk, ANZIO was joined by CAPE ST GEORGE and MAHAN and assigned duties as Surface Action Group (SAG) Commander. While the rest of EISENHOWER Battle Group headed for the Mediterranean Sea, the ANZIO SAG reported for duty to Commander in Chief, United States Naval Forces Europe (CINCUSNAVEUR) and proceeded north to the icy waters off Cape Wrath, Scotland. At Cape Wrath, the SAG would receive international attention while conducting an unprecedented Naval Surface Fire Support (NSFS) qualification. The attention stemmed from the controversy surrounding the Navy's presence in Vieques, Puerto Rico. Several months prior to COMIKEBATGRU's departure from Norfolk, the Battle Group had been denied the use of Vieques' training and qualification grounds, and until a political solution could be found, Cape Wrath was selected as the Navy's only suitable alternative.

The range at Cape Wrath presented ANZIO, CAPE ST GEORGE and MAHAN with several challenges: Because this was the first time US Navy warships had used Cape Wrath for NSFS qualification, the SAG was unfamiliar with Cape Wrath's terrain and range peculiarities. To meet this challenge, Royal Marine and US Marine Corps Range Spotters provided considerable assistance. No one, however, could help with the extreme weather conditions! Winds gusted up to 40 knots and seas reached 16 feet! This was a challenge unlike any experienced at Vieques. Nevertheless, each ship's performance was outstanding. ANZIO scored a well earned 95.8%.

While at Cape Wrath, the ANZIO also

After success at Cape Wrath, and participation in the United Kingdom-led Joint Maritime Course-01 (JMC-01) with Royal Navy and Marine forces, the ANZIO SAG was inactivated, and all ships proceeded on independently on duties assigned. For ANZIO that meant steaming south through the Irish Sea and into Portsmouth, England for a 4-day port visit. Portsmouth's rich maritime history resonated throughout the city's streets, restaurants and shops. Not far from Portsmouth - a little more than an hour by train - was historic London, which was enjoyed by nearly every ANZIO Sailor. The visit to Portsmouth was an appropriate start to what would be a deployment filled with operational milestones and many memorable ports.

Upon entering the Mediterranean Sea on 13 March 2000, ANZIO reported for duty to Commander, SIXTH Fleet (COMSIXTHFLT) and prepared for her first multinational exercise - Exercise SHARK HUNT. Conducted in the Tyrrhenian Sea, between Sardina and Sicily, SHARK HUNT was an Anti-Submarine Warfare (ASW) exercise involving surface, air and submarine forces from France, Italy, the Netherlands, and the United States. SHARK HUNT provided outstanding training for ANZIO's ASW teams as well as embarked SH-60B Seahawk helicopters. At the conclusion of Shark Hunt, ANZIO enjoyed a port visit in Palma DeMallorca, Spain. This was the first of two visits ANZIO made to beautiful Palma during the deployment. During this first visit the chilly weather prevented the ship's crew from enjoying the island's many beaches, but more than fifty crewmembers turned out to participate in several community relations (COMREL) projects. The crew also took advantage of tours offered by MWR.

Next on the ship's schedule were exercises PIONEER II and AMPLE TRAIN, conducted in the western Mediterranean Sea between France and the French island of Corsica. During PIONEER II, ANZIO

performed coordinated ASW tactics with German, French and British forces. AMPLE TRAIN was a NATO Anti-Air Warfare (AAW) exercise that culminated with a war-at-sea (WASEX) exercise involving submarines, aircraft and surface ships from the US, UK, France, Germany, the Netherlands, Hungary, Spain, Turkey, Greece, and Italy. While bad weather prevented much of what was planned for Exercise AMPLE TRAIN, the training value for ANZIO's AAW teams was invaluable. At the conclusion of AMPLE TRAIN, ANZIO made the first of her two port visits to Cannes, France. While the entire crew enjoyed its stay in Cannes, the visit was unfortunately interrupted by a "mistral" (French for the Mediterranean winds that cause rough seas and high winds along the French Mediterranean coastline). This mistral resulted in the ship's late arrival to Cannes as well as early departure.

After departing Cannes, ANZIO steamed to the eastern Mediterranean Sea for Fleet Battle Group Experiment GOLF, a battle group test of the latest new technology Joint Theater Anti-Missile Defense and targeting systems. ANZIO's participation as a Maritime Control Center (MCC) made use of her superior combat and communications suite. The Fleet GOLF experiment coincided with another multinational exercise, Exercise NOBLE SUZANNE. During NOBLE SUZANNE, ANZIO led a surface force of five US and Israeli warships against surface and air forces from IKEBATGRU, the UK, Spain, and Israel. The exercise was conducted off the coast of Israel, and it was the first opportunity ANZIO had during the deployment to work with the Israeli Navy and Air Force.

ANZIO entered the Adriatic Sea in late-April to assume Air Defense Commander (ADC) duties in support of IKEBATGRU flight operations. ADC is always a very challenging mission, especially in a congested littoral region such as the Adriatic Sea. What makes the Adriatic region an even greater challenge is the joint makeup. IKEBATGRU Adriatic flight operations were conducted in the midst of an enormous NATO air presence, which presented a great learning opportunity for ANZIO's AW watchstanders, specifically the Tactical Actions Officer (TAO), Anti-Air Warfare Coordinator (AAWC), Air Intercept Controller (AIC) and Tactical Information Coordinator (TIC).

No operation would be complete if it were not topped off with a port visit, so ANZIO made two: the first to Limassol, Cyprus and the second to Souda Bay, Crete. With the weather finally cooperating, ANZIO's crew thoroughly enjoyed both visits. Inexpensive shopping, exciting nightlife and fantastic MWR tours of the island made Limassol a lasting favorite throughout the deployment. In Souda Bay, the crew

enjoyed the tourist attractions, shopping and restaurants, but there was also a US Naval Air Station Exchange in Souda Bay, where the crew had its first chance to buy many of the American goods they could not obtain in other ports. There was also a ship's picnic and softball tournament in Souda Bay.

After departure, ANZIO transited the eastern Mediterranean Sea for the Adriatic Sea to again perform ADC duties in support of IKEBATGRU flight operations. Enroute ANZIO participated in a SIXTH Fleet/Joint Special Operations Command exercise. After ADC duties, ANZIO was scheduled for a port visit to the northern Adriatic City of Koper, Slovenia. No one knew what to expect of Koper. In fact, most of the crew had never heard of the Adriatic's fastest growing port city. For those who had they remembered that only a few short years before Slovenia it was part of Yugoslavia. What the crew discovered in Koper was an emerging city filled with gracious, hospitable people, eager to share their city and country. It was a very enjoyable port visit. While in Koper, the Commanding Officer and a small contingent made official calls on the city's mayor and naval academy. After four days in Koper the ship headed south for several days of Adriatic NATO Stabilization Force (SFOR) duties.

While performing operations in the Adriatic Sea as well as making various port visits, ANZIO was all along preparing for Exercise DYNAMIC MIX. The largest ever NATO exercise, DYNAMIC MIX included hundreds of aircraft, more than fifty warships, and nearly twenty thousand personnel from nine NATO nations! The exercise took place in the Aegean, eastern Mediterranean and Adriatic seas, and the Greek mainland. During DYNAMIC MIX, ANZIO was Operational Commander for all opposition naval forces, which included ten destroyers and frigates as well as helicopter assets from Greece, Turkey and Spain. The exercise lasted nearly two weeks and was a great success for the US, ANZIO and NATO.

A post-exercise debrief for DYNAMIC MIX participants was held in Souda Bay, Crete in the Eastern Mediterranean on 3 June. After a brief stay, ANZIO enjoyed back-to-back-to-back port visits to the Greek islands of Rhodes and Zakynthos and the Italian hideaway LaMaddalena, Sardinia.

One of the most gratifying missions given to ANZIO during the course of the deployment began while the ship was in Souda Bay, Crete during the post-DYNAMIC MIX meetings. It was there that ANZIO introduced 18 Midshipmen to Surface Warfare operations during the Atlantic-Mediterranean Midshipman Summer Training Cruise, which lasted until the ship arrived home from deployment on 18 August. The Midshipmen arrived in ANZIO over three three-week phases. During their stay in ANZIO,

each Midshipman was assigned to a running mate, given qualifications, and provided the maximum training opportunities available for learning about surface warfare and the Navy. The training each Midshipman experienced included AEGIS training scenarios, underway replenishments, Engineering evolutions, 5-inch/CIWS gun firings, helicopter and small boat operations, as well as interesting port visits. The Midshipman Summer Training Cruise was a huge success.

ANZIO conducted a Fleet Maintenance Availability (FMAV) with the submarine-tender USS EMORY S. LAND (AS 39) while in LaMaddalena, Sardinia. EMORY S. LAND's intermediate level maintenance and repair facilities were all ANZIO needed to accomplish some much-desired maintenance and repairs to various equipment. While in LaMaddalena the crew conducted their semi-annual Physical Fitness Assessment (PFA) and enjoyed liberty in this Italian "hideaway".

As ANZIO moved into the month of July the ship looked forward to continuing operations in the Adriatic Sea and enjoying a second port visit to Cannes, France and one to Dubrovnik, Croatia. One of the reasons ANZIO's crew enjoyed Adriatic operations as much as they did was because the Adriatic was a tax exempt zone, which meant Sailors received their salaries, including all bonuses, tax free. Mail was also free. All totaled ANZIO's crew received five months of tax-free pay and bonuses. Sailors re-enlisting who were eligible for re-enlistment bonuses received all bonus money tax-free – some as much as \$45,000.00! This, as well as the challenge involved in Adriatic operations, made ANZIO's time in the Adriatic Sea well spent.

Between operations in the Adriatic Sea, ANZIO made port visits to Cannes, France and Dubrovnik, Croatia. ANZIO had visited Cannes once before at the end of March, but now it was mid-July and the weather was gorgeous and the air was festive as the French people celebrated Bastille Day. In a display of patriotism, matched only by America's Fourth of July, the city of Cannes held several days worth of parades and parties. ANZIO got in on the celebrations by throwing a party on the ship's flight deck for the Navy League of Cannes. The Navy League had graciously hosted several dinners and adopted a number of Sailors during each of ANZIO's visits to Cannes.

The only thing that could top Cannes was Dubrovnik, Croatia. Dubrovnik is the jewel of the Adriatic. The city was built during the Middle Ages as a Roman center of wealth and comfort. For its protection a wall was erected around the city, and that same wall remains today. The city was also the

objective of an attack by overwhelmingly superior Serbian forces during the Yugoslavian war of the early 1990's. Serbian artillery held strongholds in the mountains overlooking the city and attempted to shell it into submission. Meanwhile, Serbian warships bombarded and blockaded the city's Adriatic coast. Yet, the city survived, and ANZIO's crew enjoyed every minute of it.

Upon departing Dubrovnik, ANZIO sailed towards Palma, Spain. Palma would be the last Mediterranean port of the deployment. The crew found this visit to be much more enjoyable than the first. The warm Mediterranean weather made Palma's beaches the place of choice for ANZIO's Sailors. It was a great way to relax before leaving the Mediterranean and heading home.

After an uneventful journey across the Atlantic Ocean, ANZIO needed to make one more stop before arriving in Norfolk on 18 August. On 17 August, ANZIO pulled into Newport, Rhode Island to pick up "Tigers" for the deployment's Tiger Cruise. These family members and friends of ANZIO Sailors embarked for the transit from Rhode Island to Norfolk, and got a little taste of what life is like at sea. The Tigers gained a better understanding of the Navy's mission through the ride and, more importantly, got the chance to see their ANZIO Sailor in action. While they were underway they experienced everything from small boat operations to a fighter aircraft fly-by to engineering drills and live gun firings. As fun as it all was, everyone was looking forward to getting home to Norfolk.

On 18 August, ANZIO returned home from her six-month deployment, pulling into Pier 24, Naval Station Norfolk. It didn't take long for the hundreds of excited family members and friends to gather up their homesick and anxious ANZIO Sailors! And while many Sailors and their guests enjoyed an embrace and short visit on the ship, in no time the ship was empty of all but the duty section. The post-deployment Leave and Upkeep Period had begun and would last until 18 September.

After returning from leave and upkeep, ANZIO got underway in support of Cooperative Engagement Capability (CEC) testing with USS DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER (CVN 69), USS JOHN F. KENNEDY (CV 67), USS CAPE ST GEORGE (CG 71), USS VICKSBURG (CG 69), USS HUE CITY (CG 66), USS WASP (LHD 1) and several non-CEC capable warships. While underway in the VACAPES, ANZIO and the other ships performed a series of critical CEC and Link communication interoperability tests. The testing was called CEC Underway 10. At the end of the underway ANZIO returned to Norfolk, and the following day held a Family Day Cruise for more than 120 family members and friends.

Afterwards, ANZIO spent nearly one month in Norfolk accomplishing much needed in-port upkeep during a Fleet Maintenance Availability (FMAV). Also in the month of October was a visit to ANZIO by CAPSTONE, a group of twenty Flag and General officers from the National Defense University. The purpose of the visit was to expose senior officers to naval warfare and life aboard a Navy warship.

Events throughout November and December brought a fitting end to very busy year. In early November the ship got underway for several days to operate in VACAPES. The underway period was scheduled in order to conduct PCMS Range Testing, Deck Landing Qualifications with Helicopter Combat Squadron Four and CEC Testing off Wallops Island, Virginia. Following the at-sea period, ANZIO had several weeks in port to prepare for its next underway: CEC Underway 11. Preparations included CEC related conferences for the ship's CEC operators, technicians and officers in Norfolk and Mayport, as well as CEC computer installations. Although the ship was concentrating its efforts on CEC, it wasn't too busy to take time out to show appreciation to veteran of the Battle of Anzio, for which the ship is named. On 21 November, the ship's Learning Material Resource Center (LMRC) was dedicated to MSGT Loren "Woody" Hoercher. USA (Ret) and renamed it "Woody's Foxhole". An ANZIO Beach head veteran Woody has been with ANZIO since precommissioning days. He was on the ship's commissioning committee, present at the ship's christening and is an honorary crewmember. The dedication received considerable press interest, including Navy Public Affairs news articles and local television coverage.

Following Thanksgiving, the ship got underway for the long anticipated CEC Underway 11. In company with ANZIO were CAPE ST GEORGE, VICKSBURG, HUE CITY and several non-CEC capable ships. The group operated in both the VACAPES and Puerto Rican Operations Area (PROA). CEC Underway 11 was considered a turning point in the development and future of the CEC program. Both the Navy and developers of CEC anticipated great success would be built upon the discoveries and improvements since CEC Underway 10 and no one was disappointed. Underway 11 was a complete success and a perfect time for all involved to take a breather before the next giant step in the road of CEC – the January 2001 underway period - CEC TECHEVAL. Upon returning to Norfolk after CEC testing, ANZIO began the Holiday Leave and Upkeep period bringing a close to an eventful year.