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DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY  
USS AVENGER (MCM-1)  
FPO MIAMI 34090-1921

5750  
AVENGER:L6/044  
21 February 1990

OPNAV Report Symbol 5750-1

From: Commanding Officer, USS AVENGER (MCM 1)  
To: Director of Naval History (OP-09BH), Washington Navy Yard, Washington, DC  
20374-0571

Subj: COMMAND HISTORY FOR 1989

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12D

Encl: (1) Command Composition and Organization  
(2) Chronology  
(3) Narrative  
(4) Supporting Documents

1. In accordance with reference (a), enclosures (1) thru (4) are submitted.

  
J.D. FOPE

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COMNAVSURFLANT  
COMCRUDESGRU TWO  
COMINERON TWO

## USS AVENGER (MCM 1)

### Command Composition and Organization

a. **Mission:** Conduct countermeasures for moored and bottom mines. Conduct independent mine warfare operations and participation in coordinated mine warfare force operations with amphibious and other forces. USS AVENGER's primary missions are Mine Warfare (MIW) and Mobility (MOB) and Command, Control, and Communications (CCC). Secondary missions are Intelligence (INT), Fleet Support Operations (FSO), and Non-Combat Operations (NCO).

b. **Immediate Senior in Command:** Commander, Mine Squadron TWO, Charleston, South Carolina.

c. **Command Organization:**

- (1) **Commanding Officer:** Lieutenant Commander James D. Cope, USN
- (2) **Executive Officer:** Lieutenant Scott D. Downey, USN
- (3) **Engineer:** Lieutenant [REDACTED]
- (4) **Deck Officer/Supply Officer:** LTJG [REDACTED] USN
- (5) **Operations Officer:** ENS [REDACTED] USN
- (6) **Damage Control Assistant:** LTJG [REDACTED], USN

d. **Homeport:** Charleston, South Carolina.

e. **Statistical Data:**

- (1) **Current crew complement:** 7 officers, 72 enlisted.

Length:	224 feet	Draft (Navigation):	15 feet
Beam:	39 feet	Displacement:	1312 tons
Speed:	13.5 knots	Accommodations:	6 officers
Draft (Keel):	12.2 feet		5 CPO
			70 enlisted

#### Propulsion

- 4 Waukesha LN 1616 DSIN's (Turbocharged) modified diesel engines
- 2 Controllable reversable pitch propellers
- 2 rudders
- 2 Electric light load propulsion motors

#### Auxiliary Systems

- 1 Gas turbine generator
- 1 Omnithruster bow thruster system

Encl (1)

**Sensors/Navigation Systems**

- 1 AN/SPS-55 Surface Search Radar
- 1 AN/SSN-2 Precise Integrated Navigation System
- 1 AN/SQQ-32 Mine Hunting Sonar

**Mine Countermeasures Systems**

- 1 AN/SLQ-48 Mine Neutralization System
- Type O Size 1 Mechanical Sweep Equipment
- AN/SLQ-37(V)2 Magnetic/Acoustic Influence Sweep Equipment

## USS AVENGER (MCM 1)

### Chronology

1 JAN-27 FEB Post Shakedown Availability I, Deytens Shipyard, Wando, SC  
(Continued from December 1989)

27 FEB Return to Charleston Naval Base,

3 MAR Transit to Port Everglades, FL.

4 MAR At sea.

5 MAR Inport Port Everglades, FL.

6-8 MAR CSSQT conducted out of Port Everglades, FL. (Cape Canaveral  
OPAREA).

9-10 MAR Pre-INSURV Preparations.

11 MAR Inport Port Everglades, FL for Final Contract Trials (FCT)  
preparations.

13-17 MAR Underway for Final Contract Trials, Board of Inspection and Survey.

21 MAR Conducted Mine Hunting and Mine Neutralization training in  
shallow/deep water (PEV OPAREA)

22 MAR Inport Port Everglades, FL.

28 MAR Transit to Charleston, SC.

1-4 APR Inport Charleston, SC.

3-7 APR Diesel Mobil Training Team.

5-6 APR Independent Steaming Exercise (ISE). (CHASN OPAREA).

7 APR Enroute Charleston, SC.

8-9 APR Inport Charleston, SC.

10-11 APR Independent Steaming Exercise (ISE). OPPE PREPS. (CHASN  
OPAREA)

12 APR Inport Charleston, SC.

17 APR Underway (CHASN OPAREA).

19-20 APR Independent Steaming Exercise. OPPE PREPS. (CHASN OPAREA)

24 APR Underway for OPPE (CHASN OPAREA).

25 APR Inport Charleston, SC for OPPE.

27 APR-15 JUN COMOPTEVFOR conducted Initial Follow-on Testing and Evaluation.  
Cape Canaveral OPAREA.

31 MAY-3 JUN Enroute Roosevelt Roads, PR for SSDG repairs.

4 JUN Inport Roosevelt Roads, PR.

16-22 JUN David Taylor Research conducted Standardization Trials off  
Fredriksted, St. Croix, VI.

23-28 JUN Transit to Charleston, SC.

28 JUN Inport Charleston, SC.

21 JUL Change of Command

14 AUG Transit to Mayport, FL.

15 AUG Commenced Post Shakedown Availability II, Atlantic Drydock and  
Marine, Jacksonville, FL.

20 SEP Emergency undocking in preparation for Hurricane Hugo

16-17 OCT Command Inspection

21 NOV Sea Trials in JAXOA for PSA II.

21 NOV Inport Mayport, FL for Post Sea Trial Repairs.

27 NOV Transit to Charleston, SC.

28 NOV Inport Charleston, SC.

15 DEC Holiday Leave and Upkeep.

## USS AVENGER (MCM 1)

### Narrative

**Post Shakedown Availability I:** This yard period held in Deytens Shipyard, Wando, SC was for repair of damage incurred during Shock Trials in December 1989. Additionally, the ship's hull was scraped, and galley, mess deck and head's decks were resurfaced. On January 18, a class Alpha fire, caused by a shipyard worker's torch, broke out in the ship's after steering room. The fire was put out without injury. Estimated cost of repairs was \$10,000.00.

**Operational Propulsion Plant Examination (OPPE):** AVENGER received an OPPE upon completion of PSA I. The OPPE was conducted to determine that propulsion plant watchstanders were qualified to operate the propulsion plant and that the administrative and material condition of the ship was adequate to support safe propulsion plant operations. AVENGER engineering department was rated above-average in all phases of the OPPE and received an overall grade of above-average.

**Combat Systems Sea Qualification Trials (CSSQT):** Conducted reconnaissance in shallow field and breakthrough in intermediate field. A total of nine Mine Neutralization Systems (MNS) missions against moored targets were attempted during the conduct of reconnaissance. Six missions were successfully completed. The production model sonar and telemetry unit were installed in the MNS system prior to commencement of testing. After the first three missions, the production model sonar and telemetry units were replaced with EDM units due to poor production model sonar performance.

**Follow-on Operational Test and Evaluation (FOT&E):** CNO Project 005-OT-III.A. The purpose of this evaluation was to determine the operational effectiveness and operational suitability of the mine hunting, and minesweeping equipment in USS AVENGER, and its readiness for fleet introduction using the Precise Integrated Navigation System (PINS) and SLQ-48 Mine Neutralization System (MNS).

**Post Shakedown Availability II:** PSA II was held in Atlantic Drydock and Marine, Jacksonville, FL and was primarily for installation of the SQQ-32 Mine Hunting Sonar with associated equipments. Also during this period the ship's 1A SSDG was changed out, ventilation access plates installed, Operator Control Unit of the UCHS Winch installed, EMI shielding, GRP bonding repaired, modifications made to the oily waste system and repairs to the Gas Turbine Mine Sweep Generator.

**Command Inspection:** This inspection covered all areas of administration, safety, and training. The command received an overall grade of satisfactory.