



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

USS AVENGER (MCM-1)

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OPNAV Report Symbol 5750-1

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

Subj: COMMAND HISTORY FOR 1993

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12E

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

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

*J. C. PIPER*  
J. C. PIPER

Copy to:  
COMINWARCOM Corpus Christi, TX  
COMCMGRU THREE  
COMCMGRU TWO



**USS AVENGER (MCM-1)**

**Command Composition and Organization**

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

b. Immediate Superior in Command: Commander, Mine Countermeasures Group THREE, Ingleside, Texas.

c. Command Organization (as of 31 December 1993):

- (1) Commanding Officer: LCDR Terrance C. Ryan, USN
- (2) Executive Officer: LCDR James P. Steele, III, USN
- (3) Chief Engineer: LT [REDACTED] USN
- (4) Damage Control Assistant: LT [REDACTED], USNR
- (5) Operations Officer: LTJG [REDACTED], USN
- (6) Supply Officer: ENS [REDACTED], USN

d. Homeport: Naval Station Ingleside, Texas

e. Statistical Data:

- (1) Current ship's manning: 8 Officers, 76 Enlisted

Length:	224 feet	Draft (Navigation):	15 feet
Beam:	39 feet	Displacement:	1312 tons
Speed:	13.5 knots	Accommodations:	8 Officer 5 CPO
Draft (keel):	12.2 feet		70 Enlisted

**Propulsion:**

Four Waukesha LN 1616 DSIN modified diesel engines

Two controllable pitch propellers

Two rudders

Two electric light load propulsion motors

**Auxiliary:**

Three Waukesha LN 1616 DSIN modified ship's service diesel generators

One gas turbine DC generator

One omnithruster bow thruster

**Sensors/Navigation Systems:**

One AN/SPS-55 surface search radar

One Furuno navigation radar

One AN/SSN-2(V) Phase III Precise Integrated Navigation System (PINS III)

One AN/SQQ-32 Advanced Minehunting sonar set

One AN/WQN-1 Channel Finder

**Mine Countermeasures system:**

One AN/SLQ-48 Mine neutralization system

Size 1 Oropesa type mechanical minesweeping equipment

AN/SLQ-37(V)3 magnetic/acoustic influence minesweeping equipment

**USS AVENGER (MCM-1)**

**Chronology**

1-10 JAN	Inport (IPT) Charleston, SC for Holiday Leave and Standdown
11-15 JAN	ISE Charleston OPAREA for MIW Training
16-20 JAN	IPT Charleston SC
21-26 JAN	Enroute, Newport, Rhode Island for MIW Training and abbreviated CSSQT
27 JAN - 02 FEB	IPT Newport, RI
03 FEB	ISE Newport OPAREA for MIW Training
04-06 FEB	IPT Newport, RI
07 FEB	ISE Newport OPAREA for MIW Training
08-11 FEB	IPT Newport, RI
12 FEB	ISE Newport OPAREA for MIW training
13-19 FEB	IPT Newport, RI
20-27 FEB	Enroute, Charleston, SC
28 FEB - 07 MAR	IPT Charleston, SC
08-11 MAR	ISE Charleston OPAREA for MIW Training
12-21 MAR	IPT Charleston, SC
22-26 MAR	ISE Charleston OPAREA for MIW Training
27 MAR - 04 APR	IPT Charleston, SC
05-25 APR	Upkeep period conducted in conjunction with SIMA Charleston
25-30 APR	ISE Charleston OPAREA for MIW and Engineering Training
01-02 MAY	IPT Charleston, SC
03-07 MAY	ISE Charleston OPAREA for Engineering Training with ETG DET Charleston
08-11 MAY	IPT Charleston, SC

Encl (2)

12-14 MAY	ISE Charleston OPAREA for Engineering Training
15-18 MAY	IPT Charleston, SC
15-16 MAY	Participant in the Naval Station Charleston Community Appreciation activities
19-21 MAY	ISE Charleston OPAREA for Engineering Training
22-23 MAY	IPT Charleston, SC
24 MAY	OPPE rehearsal (first inport day) with MCMGRU TWO Engineering Readiness Assessment Team (ERAT)
25 MAY	ISE Charleston OPAREA for OPPE rehearsal (underway day) with MCMGRU TWO ERAT
26-28 MAY	IPT Charleston, SC for OPPE rehearsal with MCMGRU TWO ERAT
29 MAY - 07 JUN	IPT Charleston, SC
31 MAY - 04 JUN	OPPE preps with assistance from RSG and SIMA Charleston
08-10 JUN	OPPE, IPT Charleston, SC and ISE Charleston OPAREA
08 JUN	Propulsion Examining Board, Atlantic, embarks for Operational Propulsion Plant Examination
10 JUN	Propulsion Examining Board, Atlantic, departs
11-27 JUN	IPT Charleston, SC
25 JUN	Change of Command
28 JUN - 02 JUL	ISE, Charleston OPAREA for AN/SQQ-32 demonstration
29-30 JUN	Royal Australian Navy representatives embark for sonar demonstration
01 JUL	Spanish Navy representatives embark for sonar demonstration
02 JUL	Burial at sea, Charleston OPAREA

03-06 JUL IPT Charleston, SC

07-19 JUL Complete Degaussing check at Charleston  
Magnetic Silencing Range and Crib

15-18 JUL Port visit, Union Street Pier, Charleston, SC

19-20 JUL IPT Charleston, SC

21-30 JUL Enroute to new homeport, Naval Station  
Ingleside, Texas

25 JUL Brief Stop for Fuel (BSF) at Key West, FL

25-30 JUL Continued transit to Ingleside, TX

30 JUL Arrive, Naval Station Ingleside, TX

31 JUL - 15 AUG IPT Ingleside, TX

16 AUG - 24 SEP AN/SQQ-32 Advanced Minehunting sonar set  
Technical Evaluation (TECHEVAL), administered  
by Coastal Systems Station Panama City, FL

16-20 AUG ENROUTE Panama City, for TECHEVAL

18 AUG Bottom survey, off the coast of Galveston, TX

20 AUG Commence TECHEVAL

20-27 AUG ISE Panama City OPAREA, conducting TECHEVAL

28-31 AUG IPT Panama City, FL

01-06 SEP ISE Panama City OPAREA, conducting TECHEVAL

07-13 SEP IPT Panama City, FL

13-19 SEP ISE Panama City OPAREA, conducting TECHEVAL

19-20 SEP IPT Panama City, FL

21 SEP ISE Panama City OPAREA, conducting TECHEVAL

21 SEP ENROUTE, Galveston OPAREA for TECHEVAL

22 SEP ISE Galveston OPAREA, conducting TECHEVAL

22-24 SEP TRANSIT, Ingleside, TX

24 SEP	ARRIVE, Ingleside, TX
25 SEP - 14 OCT	IPT, Ingleside, TX
04-07 OCT	Logistics Management Assessment
15-22 OCT	ISE Gulf of Mexico OPAREA (GOMEX) for AN/SLQ-48 MNS Training, administered by NMWEA FTG Det Ingleside
23-26 OCT	IPT, Ingleside, TX
26-27 OCT	IPT Ingleside, TX for Safety Survey
28 OCT - 07 NOV	IPT, Ingleside, TX
08 NOV - 18 DEC	AN/SQQ-32 Operational Evaluation
08 NOV - 13 DEC	AN/SQQ-32 Advanced Minehunting sonar set Operational Evaluation (OPEVAL), administered by Commander, Operational Test and Evaluation Force (COMOPTEVFOR)
08-11 NOV	ENROUTE Panama City, FL for OPEVAL
11 NOV	ARRIVE, Panama City, FL
12-15 NOV	IPT Panama City, FL
16-19 NOV	ISE Panama City OPAREA conducting OPEVAL
20-22 NOV	IPT Panama City, FL
23-28 NOV	ISE Panama City OPAREA conducting OPEVAL
29 NOV - 03 DEC	IPT Panama City, FL
04-09 DEC	ISE Panama City OPAREA conducting OPEVAL
09-10 DEC	ENROUTE Galveston OPAREA for OPEVAL
10 DEC	ISE Galveston OPAREA conducting OPEVAL
11-13 DEC	ENROUTE, Ingleside, TX
13 DEC	ARRIVE Ingleside, TX
14-31 DEC	Holiday leave and standdown

## USS AVENGER (MCM-1)

### Narrative

Abbreviated CSSQT: The beginning of 1993 found AVENGER conducting poor environment tests of the AN/SQQ-32 sonar off the coast of Newport, RI. Additionally, the Naval Minewarfare Engineering Activity, Yorktown, VA (NMWEA) conducted an abbreviated CSSQT. The weather proved to be too much to overcome and AVENGER returned to Charleston without completing the entire exercise.

Operational Propulsion Plant Examination (OPPE): The first-ever short-notice OPPE was successfully completed during early June 1993, resulting in a two-year certification of AVENGER's engineering plant.

Change of Command: LCDR T.C. RYAN, USN relieved LCDR J.E. ZAVODNY, USN during a change of command ceremony held at the Naval Station Charleston theater on 25 June 1993. LCDR RYAN reported from PACFLT Diesel MTT. LCDR ZAVODNY received orders to USNAVCENT, Bahrain, to assume duties as the Communications Officer.

Sonar Demonstrations: AVENGER performed active demonstrations of the AN/SQQ-32 Advanced Minehunting sonar set for both the Royal Australian and Spanish navies. Representatives from both countries were embarked for separate missions that demonstrated both the shallow and deep water capabilities of the sonar.

Homeport Shift: With the closing of Naval Station Charleston, AVENGER departed on the morning of 22 July 1993 and arrived at the new homeport of Naval Station Ingleside, Texas on the morning of 30 July 1993. During the transit, prior to arrival in Key West for fuel, AVENGER came upon an abandoned 18' power boat and took it under tow until a Coast Guard craft from the Islomorada station took the vessel for further processing.

Change of Executive Officer: LCDR J.P. STEELE, III, USN relieved LCDR G.K. WALLIN, USN on 08 August 1993. LCDR Steele's previous assignment was Chief Engineer onboard USS GOLDSBOROUGH (DDG-20). LCDR WALLIN received orders to relieve the Officer-in-Charge of the Military Sealift Command, Detachment Singapore.

AN/SQQ-32 Technical Evaluation (TECHEVAL): AVENGER was tasked as the Chief of Naval Operations' test platform for the testing and evaluation of the AN/SQQ-32 Advanced Minehunting sonar set. Except for two abbreviated missions completed off the coast of Galveston, Texas, the bulk of the TECHEVAL was completed off the coast of Panama City, Florida, under the watchful eyes of the project managers from Coastal System Station Panama City, FL.



This arduous six week period determined if the sonar was ready to undergo the operational evaluation and also brought the crew up to the necessary standards that would be required during the actual evaluation which would be conducted by a separate Navy authority. In all, thirteen sonar minehunting missions and eight MNV sonar contact identification missions were conducted.

Logistics Management Assessment: Upon completion of TECHEVAL, AVENGER completed a successful Logistics Management Assessment (LMA), garnering the blue E, signifying excellence in logistics management and 3-M.

AN/SQQ-32 Operational Evaluation (OPEVAL): A very busy year was culminated with the completion of the AN/SQQ-32 sonar OPEVAL, the evaluation wherein the Navy would make the decision to purchase the sonar for the remainder of the class. Due to material problems in the engineering plant, AVENGER was forced to commence the evaluation six weeks later than scheduled and completed the exercise nine days ahead of schedule. The Operational Test and Evaluation Force (OPTEVFOR) provided the personnel who evaluated the system during the OPEVAL. AVENGER visited the Panama City and Galveston OPAREAs for the testing grounds. The majority of the exercise was conducted off the coast of Panama City and a less-than-ideal environment portion was also conducted off of Galveston. Because of Texas state laws, AVENGER was also tasked with the recovery of all of the exercise mine shapes that had been previously deployed by another authority.