



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

USS AVENGER (MCM-1)
FPO AA 34090-1921

5750
Ser MCM1/027
11 Apr 03

From: Commanding Officer, USS AVENGER (MCM-1)
To: Director, Naval Historical Center Washington Navy Yard,
805 Kidder Breese SE, Washington, D.C. 20374-5060

Subj: COMMAND HISTORY FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2002

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12G

Encl: (1) Command Composition and Organization
(2) Chronology
(3) Narrative
(4) 3 1/2" Diskette with MS Word Version 9.0 of Report

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "G. P. Kuffel".

G. P. KUFFEL

Copy to:
COMINWARCOM Corpus Christi, TX
COMCMRON TWO

USS AVENGER (MCM 1)

Command Composition and Organization

a. Unit Identification Code (UIC): 21314

b. 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).

c. Immediate Superior in Command: Commander, Mine Countermeasures Squadron Two, Ingleside, Texas.

d. Command Organization (as of 31 December 2002):

(1) Commanding Officer: LCDR Glenn P. Kuffel, USN

(2) Executive Officer: LCDR Troy Dotson, USNR

(3) Operations Officer: LTJG [REDACTED], USNR

(4) Chief Engineer: LT [REDACTED], USNR

(5) Supply Officer: LTJG [REDACTED], USNR

(6) Assistant Chief Engineer: ENS [REDACTED], USNR

(7) Damage Control Assistant: LTJG [REDACTED], USNR

(8) First Lieutenant: LTJG [REDACTED], USNR

e. Homeport: Naval Station Ingleside, Texas

f. Statistical Data:

(1) Current ship's manning: 8 Officers, 5 CPOs, and 85 Enlisted

Length:	224 feet	Draft (Navigation):	13 feet
Beam:	39 feet	Displacement:	1312 tons
Speed:	13.5 knots	Accommodations:	8 Officer 6 CPO 70 Enlisted
Draft (keel):	12.2 feet		

Encl. (1)

Propulsion:

Four Waukesha LN 1616 DSIN modified diesel engines

Two Controllable Reversible Pitch Propellers

Two Rudders

Two Electric Light Load Propulsion Motors

Auxiliary:

Three Waukesha LN 1616 DSIN modified Ship's Service Diesel Generators

One Solar Gas Turbine

One Omnithruster Bow Thruster

Sensors/Navigation Systems:

One AN/SPS-55 Surface Search Radar

One Furuno Navigation Radar

One AN/SSN-2 (V6) Precise Integrated Navigation System

One AN/SQQ-32 Advanced Minehunting Sonar Set

One AN/WQN-1 Channel Finder

One AN/UQN-4 Fathometer

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 Sweep Equipment

AN/SLQ-38 Mechanical Equipment

USS AVENGER (MCM-1)

Chronology

01 JAN- 6 JAN	Leave and Upkeep: Ingleside TX
3 JAN – 11 JAN	Paint Availability
21 JAN-21 JAN	U/W to South West Marine Shipyard
4 FEB – 22 FEB	Concurrent Availability with SIMA Ingleside
8 MAY – 8 MAY	Engineering Light Off Assessment
27 JAN- 16 MAY	Phased Maintenance Availability at South West Marine Shipyard, Ingleside, Texas
22 MAY-22 MAY	Hurricane Moor Exercise at Naval Station Ingleside
14 MAY-14 MAY	Sea Trials-Underway Corpus Christi Operational Area
17 JUN-21 JUN	Supply Management Assessment
17 JUN-21 JUN	CRA/SEMAT I
25 JUN-26 JUN	U/W- Underway Corpus Christi Operational Area
27 JUN-29 JUN	MICFAC MEDAL and GCCS-M Training Exercise
1 JUL-3 JUL	Force Protection LTT
1 JUL-12 JUL	SIMA Ingleside Availability
15 JUL-19 JUL	Initial Assessment
22 JUL-26 JUL	CART II
24 JUL-26 JUL	U/W for CART II- Underway Corpus Christi Operational Area
31 JUL-1 AUG	U/W: MICFAC MEDAL and GCCS-M Training Exercise
5 AUG- 26 AUG	Diesel Engine Inspections
26 AUG-30 AUG	Supply Management Inspection

Encl (2)

26 AUG – 6 SEP	SIMA Ingleside Availability
1 OCT – 11 OCT	Diesel Engine Inspections
4 SEP - 4 SEP	LCDR Andrew Amidon relieved by Lcdr Troy Dotson as Executive Officer
13 OCT-13 OCT	U/W from Naval Station Ingleside
13 OCT-19 OCT	U/W Transit: Gulf of Mexico enroute to escort USS ROBIN
8 NOV - 8 NOV	LCDR John T. Beaver, Jr is relieved as Commanding Officer Inport Ingleside, TX by Lcdr Glenn P. Kuffel
15 NOV-15 NOV	Tour of AVENGER by WWII Veterans from USS LUZON (ARG-2)
18 NOV-22 NOV	GAS-1 Antenna Demonstration and Testing
22 NOV-02 DEC	Thanksgiving Holiday Leave and Upkeep
6 DEC - 6 DEC	Command Holiday Party
14 DEC-14 DEC	U/W in the Corpus Christi Operational Area
14 DEC-27 DEC	Christmas Leave Period/Standown
28 DEC-03 JAN	New Years Leave Period/Standown

USS AVENGER (MCM 1)

Narrative

AVENGER started 2002 with the completion of the leave and upkeep period before beginning a comprehensive Phased Maintenance Availability (PMA). AVENGER underwent a wide-ranging PMA at South West Marine Shipyard in Ingleside, Texas from 21 Jan-16 May. While at South West Marine, AVENGER organized tiger teams that repainted and relagged the majority of the ship. Many systems were upgraded from the SQQ-32 Sonar to the Integrated Ships Control System which controls the Main Engines. The time was also used wisely in the preparation for Light Off Assessment with Main Space Fire Drills every Tuesday and Thursday.

After a comprehensive availability, AVENGER received an outstanding evaluation from COMCMRON TWO during the Engineering Light Off Assessment (LOA) on the 8th of May. AVENGER crewmembers proved beyond a shadow of a doubt that they were ready to handle a Main Space Fire. LOA earned AVENGER an exceptional reputation as a ship capable of training its own.

COMNAVSURFLANT N43 team came to AVENGER to complete the initial assessment engineering evaluation from 15-19 Jul. AVENGER once again proved herself ready, earning high praise from the team of assessors. Tiger teams were employed during the evaluation to handle any minor discrepancies found by the team.

The next milestone in the Inter-deployment training cycle was held from 22-26 Jul. CART II was broken down into two phases: Phase one consisted of an in port Admin inspection and phase two an underway demonstration. Utilizing checklists months in advance, AVENGER was well prepared for this assessment.

On October the fourth LCDR Troy L. Dotson relieved LCDR Andrew Amidon as Executive Officer.

Playing a proactive part in the surrounding community, AVENGER was sponsored by the Sinton Rotary Club. On 28 Sep an appreciation dinner was held for the entire crew and their guests at a local wildlife refuge.

Columbus Day saw AVENGER getting underway in order to escort USS ROBIN from Pascagoula, Mississippi back to homeport in Ingleside, Texas. The trip was a very eventful one because it was our first escort mission and medical evacuation. USS ROBIN was escorted back to homeport safely while a shipmate was safely transferred via small boat from USS SCOUT. The sailor was safely picked up from AVENGER by local medical personnel and transferred to a local hospital. This trip was very eventful and exciting.

On November 8 AVENGER had a change of Command when LCDR Glenn P. Kuffel relieved LCDR John T. Beaver as Commanding Officer in a ceremony onboard Naval Station Ingleside. The ceremony's guest speaker was CAPT Richard Rush, Commander Afloat Training Group. LCDR Beaver was presented an award from the Commander, Mine Warfare Command.

AVENGER participated in the testing of the AN/GAS-1 Global Positioning System (GPS) antenna 18-22 Nov. This system will provide the ability for ships to utilize GPS while opposing forces attempt to jam it.

AVENGER closed out the year with a holiday party on Dec 6th. It was held at Naval Air Station Corpus Christi. Everyone who was not on duty attended the party. It was a huge success because MWR gave away many prizes and two shipmates were meritoriously promoted.

Encl. (3)