



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
COMMANDING OFFICER
USS BOXER LHD 4
FPO AP 96661-1663

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From: Commanding Officer, USS BOXER (LHD 4)
To: Chief of Naval Operations (N09BH)

Subj: COMMAND HISTORY FOR 2000

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12G

Encl: (1) USS BOXER (LHD 4) Command History for 2000

1. Per reference (a), enclosure (1) is hereby submitted.

D. M. Looney
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By direction

**USS BOXER (LHD 4)
COMMAND HISTORY
2000**

- Part I Command Composition and Organization
- Part II Chronology
- Part III Narrative
- Part IV Supporting Documents

Part I Command Composition and Organization

- a. Command Short Title: USS BOXER
- b. Unit Identification Code (UIC): 21808
- c. Mission: Embarkation, transport, deployment, command, and full support of a Marine Expeditionary Unit.
- d. Immediate Senior Command: Commander, Amphibious Group THREE
- e. Commanding Officer: Captain Stephen D. Doyle, USN
- f. Permanent Duty Station: Naval Station, San Diego, CA

Part II CHRONOLOGY

a. The following is a chronological list of significant events relevant to USS BOXER (LHD 4):

December 15, 1999 to January 7, 2000:	Holiday Standdown
January 11, 2000 to January 21, 2000:	TSTA A (Underway)
January 19, 2000 to January 28, 2000:	TSTA B (Underway)
February 3, 2000 to February 4, 2000:	Equal (Underway)
February 7, 2000 to February 11, 2000:	SMA (Inport)
February 14, 2000 to February 18, 2000:	TSTA B (Underway)
February 14, 2000 to March 10, 2000:	TSTA II (Underway)
March 29, 2000 to March 30, 2000:	FEP (Underway)
April 3, 2000 to April 14, 2000:	Amphibious Specialty Training (AST) (Underway)
May 22, 2000 to May 25, 2000:	Amphibious Orientation Training (AOT) (Underway)
May 30, 2000 to July 13, 2000:	RIMPAC 2000 (Underway)
September 5, 2000 to September 8, 2000:	SMI (Inport)
October 3, 2000 to October 13, 2000:	Fleet Week San Francisco (Underway 10/3 to 10/5) (Inport San Francisco 10/6 to 10/10) (Underway 10/11 to 10/13)
October 16, 2000 to October 20, 2000:	INSURV (Underway 10/17) (Inport 10/18 to 10/20)
October 16, 2000 to October 27, 2000:	CSRR
October 30, 2000 to November 9, 2000:	COMPTUEX (Underway)
November 13, 2000 to November 17, 2000:	AMI (Inport)
November 13, 2000 to November 17, 2000:	AMMO Onload (Underway)
November 30, 2000 to December 8, 2000:	Mazatlan Port Visit (Underway 11/30 to 12/02)

(Inport Mazatlan 12/03 to
12/05)
(Underway 12/06 to 12/08)

December 12, 2000 to December 15, 2000: SITE TRUE (Underway)

December 15, 2000 to January 7, 2001: Holiday Standdown

PART III NARRATIVE

a. The following information recounts the significant events and changes in equipment accomplished during 2000:

BOXER set the foundation for the ship's third deployment through a series of evolutions to fully prepare the ship and her crew. At the outset of the year, BOXER fully completed a series of training initiatives, evaluations and inspections culminated with a superb performance in FEP.

Training focused on amphibious operations followed leading up to participation in RIMPAC 2000. This multi-national exercise in and around Hawaii offered BOXER the opportunity to work closely with Marine units. BOXER delivered in every challenge including support of Operation Strong Angel, a humanitarian assistance operation designed to demonstrate the Navy and Marine Corps abilities to deliver assistance to United Nations operations.

During RIMPAC 2000, BOXER also hosted a reception in honor of Korean War Veterans in this year of the 50th anniversary of the Korean conflict. The reception also served as a multi-national event to culminate the highly successful biennial multi-national military exercise.

Upon completion of RIMPAC, BOXER returned to San Diego to facilitate a series of system upgrades. Of particular importance were a series of installations designed to greatly enhance BOXER's communications capabilities. IT21 upgrades included the installation of new satellite dishes to support "Challenge Athena." Satellite dishes encased in a dome protection were installed on both the port and starboard sides of the ship. This installation affords BOXER enhanced bandwidth.

BOXER returned to sea in early October for a port visit of San Francisco and participation in Fleet Week activities. BOXER participated in the parade of ships and hosted more than 10,000 visitors through public tours of the ship.

BOXER focused on preparations for the next deployment through the remainder of the year with exercises to demonstrate the ability to support amphibious operations and facilitate Marine Corps embarkations. Preparations included successful completion of COMPTUEX, FLEETEX, and ARG/SOCCERT.

A brief port visit of Mazatlan, Mexico, afforded Sailors and Marines an opportunity for rest and relaxation and to spread goodwill to our neighbors to the south. During the visit more than 75 Sailors and Marines participated in a series of Community Relations projects including projects to improve the living

conditions of an orphanage.

Several departments had outstanding efforts during the year. These include the following:

AIMD: Performed in a superb manner throughout the year. Absolute dedication to airwing support directly contributed to an average 89% Full Mission Capable (FMC) and a 92% Mission Capable (MC) readiness rate of embarked aircraft, in addition AIMD passed the FY-01 COMNAVAIRPAC Aviation Maintenance Inspection (AMI) with an outstanding score of 39 of 40 programs graded On-Track. During RIMPAC 2000 AIMD supported the CH53D aircraft in an unprecedented manner for an aircraft that is not normally deployed on L-Class ships.

SUPPLY: Supply Management Assessment (SMA) resulted in early certification of the General Stores and Retail Operations areas.

Supply Management Inspection (SMI) resulted in successful certification of the Food Service area. The Postal Inspection received the grade of 100% with no discrepancies. In May BOXER was chosen to prototype the "Ships-in-Pass" disbursing initiative which moved the pay record transaction processing ashore and resulted in a 99.6% accuracy rate, the highest on the waterfront.

BOXER was also hand-picked by CNSP to implement Retail Operations Management System Version II (ROM II). After a successful test during the first accounting period of FY-00, BOXER shifted fully to ROM II and completed the successful prototype and system certification. BOXER received the CINCPACFLT Price Fighter 1st Honorable mention Award and was recognized by CNSP for \$0 in DLR carcass charges throughout FY-00.

MEDICAL: BOXER received the 3rd consecutive TYCOM Unit Health Promotion Award (Green "H") for CY-99. BOXER also received the second consecutive Naval Environmental Health Center Gold Star Award for Health Promotion. In August, BOXER installed a computer radiography system. This allows all-digital development, storage and transmittal of X-rays, including adding teleradiology capability.

SAFETY: BOXER conducted a Naval Safety Center "Safety Survey" in July in preparation for INSURV and to assess our overall safety posture. In September, BOXER conducted a Naval Safety Center sponsored Operational Risk Management Standdown. The Pacific Board of Inspection and Survey conducted a thorough examination at the material condition of BOXER and many of the ship safety programs. BOXER was selected for the PHIBGRU THREE Safety Award for CY-2000 and the COMNAVSURFPAC TYCOM Safety Award and is under consideration for the 2000 CNO Safety Award.

PUBLIC AFFAIRS: Aggressively supported a wide range of public affairs initiatives to include hosting the change of commands for Commander, Amphibious Group THREE and Commander Amphibious Squadron SEVEN; hosting COMMANDER THIRD FLEET's reception to conclude the 2000 Rim of the Pacific (RIMPAC) event with a special invitation to honor Korean War Veterans in commemoration of the 50th Anniversary of the Korean War; offered tours to various foreign Navy personnel to include Japan, Australia, Chile, Turkey, South Korea, Great Britain, and Mexico; hosted a variety of civic organizations for a variety of functions to include the Association of Naval Aviation Desert Storm Squadron, the Navy League of the United States Hollywood Chapter, the Boy Scouts of America, Navy Sea Cadets, Navy Junior ROTC, the NROTC of the University of California-Berkeley; hosted many Veteran's Organizations for tours to include the U. S. LST Association and the Subic Bay Marines Association; hosted tours for members of Congressional Staffs; welcomed aboard more than 10,000 visitors for Fleet Week activities in San Francisco; welcomed aboard news media to include an Italian News Magazine, four Hawaiian television stations, two Hawaiian newspapers, 13 journalists from Mazatlan, Mexico, and Navy/Marine Corps News; hosted 1,200 guests for the Culligan Holiday Bowl Navy/Marine Corps luncheon to include the football teams of the University of Oregon and the University of Texas.

Part IV SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

- a. BOXER Welcome Aboard
- b. Battle "E" and Command Excellence Awards Submission Letter
- c. News Releases
- d. Biography and Portrait of Captain Doyle
- e. Ship's photograph