DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

USS BUFFALO (SSN 715) UFPO SAN FRANCISCO 96661

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From:

Commanding Officer, USS BUFFALO (SSN 715)

To:

Director of Naval History (OP-09BH), Washington Naval Yard,

Washington, DC 20374

Subj:

ANNUAL COMMAND HISTORY

Ref:

(a) OPNAVINST 5750.12C

(b) COMSUBPACINST 5400.7C

Encl:

(1) USS BUFFALO (SSN 715) Command History for CY86

1. As required by references (a) and (b), the annual Command History of the USS BUFFALO (SSN 715) is forwarded as enclosure (1).

CARL T. BERRY

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USS BUFFALO (SSN 715) COMMAND HISTORY FOR 1986

BUFFALO began 1986 by conducting Pacific Submarine Anti-Submarine Weapons Exercise 86-1 in company with the USS HAWKBILL (SSN 666). The remainder of January and February was consumed by local weekly operations out of Pearl Harbor and an Operational Reactor Safeguards Examination at the end of February.

March started a three month dedicated maintenance period. The first three weeks were spent as a ship's force/intermediate maintenance activity upkeep followed by a two month Selected Restricted Availability (SRA). This SRA (the first for BUFFALO) included a five week period of drydocking. The ship completed the SRA four days early on May 21, 1986.

In June, BUFFALO participated in a Tactical Development Exercise followed by successful completion of a Navy Technical Proficiency Inspection. On June 23, 1986 the ship got underway for a seven week mini-deployment on a mission of high national interest. The ship returned to Pearl Harbor on 12 August 1986.

After a short one week ship upkeep period, BUFFALO supported a two week Prospective Commanding Officers training operation during the remainder of August. At the conclusion of this exercise the crew enjoyed a port visit to Lahaina, Maui, followed by a dependent's cruise back to Pearl Harbor.

During September the ship conducted a four week upkeep. During this time, the ship completed a Supply Management Inspection with the second highest grade given for a Pacific Fleet submarine during the year.

During the first week of October BUFFALO conducted an exercise with the Japanese Submarine MOCHISHIO. After spending a day inport, BUFFALO was scrambled with only 14 hours notice to conduct an important classified operation in the interest of national security. After two weeks in the Mid-Pacific, BUFFALO returned to Pearl Harbor to participate in Pacific Submarine Anti-Submarine Warfare Exercise 87-1 with the USS HAWKBILL (SSN 666) during the last week of October. A Tactical Readiness Evaluation was conducted during this exercise with excellent results.

The first three weeks of November were spent in transit to and from the acoustic range located off the coast of Santa Cruz, California, with a week on the range and two weekends spent in port at San Diego, California. On return to Pearl Harbor the ship was given an unannounced Operational Reactor Safeguards Examination three days before Thanksgiving. BUFFALO did very well on this inspection and received the personal praises of Commander Submarine Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet and Commander Submarine Squadron ONE.

BUFFALO spent the remainder of the year in upkeep in Pearl Harbor, having spent 138 days of 1986 at sea or away from homeport and steamed 32,450 miles during the year.