



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

USS BUFFALO (SSN 715)

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From: Commanding Officer, USS BUFFALO (SSN 715)
To: Director of Naval History (N09BH), Naval Historical Center, Washington Navy Yard, 901 M Street SE, Bldg. 57, Washington, DC 20374-5060.

Subj: USS BUFFALO (SSN 715) COMMAND HISTORY

1. Command Composition and Organization. USS BUFFALO (SSN 715) is a Los Angeles Class Fast Attack Submarine home-ported in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. BUFFALO's ISIC is Squadron One. CDR Robert M. Hennegan is the Commanding Officer.

2. Chronology.

01-04 Jan: Completion of the Christmas Standown
05-08 Jan: Tactical Weapons Proficiency
09-14 Jan: Preparations for Dry Dock and SRA
15 Jan-08 May: Dry-dock at dry-dock 4 and commence SRA
09 May-10 Jun: Un-dock and complete SRA
11-12 Jun: Sea Trials
13-15 Jun: In-Port for weapons load
16-20 Jun: Independent Steaming Evolutions (ISE)
21-25 Jun: Tactical Weapons Proficiency
26-28 Jun: Inport
29 Jun-03 Jul: ISE
04-06 Jul: Inport
07-11 Jul: ISE
12 Jul: VIP cruise for congressional staffers
13-19 Jul: ISE
20 Jul-20 Sep: SPRUCE, DDS fit-up, POM II Upkeep
21-24 Sep: Sea Trials
25-27 Sep: In-port
28 Sep-02 Oct: Exercise Support for the USS Greenville
05-10 Oct: Transit to SEAFAC
11-12 Oct: Conduct Acoustic Seatrials on SEAFAC range
13-14 Oct: Transit to Bangor WA for re-supply and liberty
15-19 Oct: Inport Bangor WA
20 Oct-04 Nov: Special Joint Operation
05-08 Nov: Inport Esquimalt
09-13 Nov: Transit Pearl Harbor
14 Nov-06 Dec: Ship's Force Upkeep
07-18 Dec: ISE and support of USS HONOLULU POMCERT-TRE
19-31 Dec: Christmas Standown

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3. USS BUFFALO (SSN 715) started the year with a Tactical Weapons Proficiency (TWP) and then commenced preparations for a Selected Restricted Availability (SRA).

BUFFALO completed a first-ever, dual, SRA with the USS Los Angeles (SSN 688) in the same dry-dock. The ship completed numerous maintenance actions and ship alts, the most noteworthy of which was a Dry Deck Shelter Conversion (DDS). BUFFALO was the First Pacific Fleet 688-Class submarine outfitted with the DDS modification. After an arduous 6 month SRA, BUFFALO returned to sea for another TWP and local operations.

In October, BUFFALO commenced an EASTERN PACIFIC deployment that included Acoustical Sound Measurements. The ship was evaluated as one of the quietest 688 class submarines in the fleet. After completion of Acoustic Measurements, the boat was tasked with a special joint operation with the United States Coast Guard and Canadian government naval forces.

The ship performed superbly and received high praise from all agencies involved in the operation. During the Eastern Pacific Deployment, BUFFALO enjoyed port visits to Bangor, Washington and Esquimalt, Vancouver, British Columbia.

BUFFALO returned from EastPac on 13 November, completed a three week voyage repair and then returned to sea for local operations. The ship returned to Pearl harbor on 18 December and ended the year with a Christmas Standown. Nineteenth ninety-eight was a year filled with heavy maintenance in support of several ship modifications and upgrades including the Dry-Deck shelter conversion.



R. M. HENNEGAN