



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

USS CHAMPION (MCM-4)
FPO AA 34090-1924

IN REPLY REFER TO:
5750
Ser: 00/006
15 May 02

From: Commanding Officer, USS CHAMPION (MCM-4)

To: Chief of Naval Operations (N09BH)

Subj: USS CHAMPION (MCM 4) COMMAND HISTORY FOR 2001

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12G

Encl: (1) Chronological Command History
(2) Narrative Command History
(3) Aransas Pass Progress Newspaper Article (copy)
(4) Change of Command Program Pamphlet
(5) Change of Command Ceremony Video (VHS)

1. The 2001 Command History for USS CHAMPION (MCM-4) submitted in accordance with reference (a), for Department of the Navy archives.

2. Commanding Officer Photograph and Biography are located within the Change of Command Program listed as "Prospective Commanding Officer."

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "P. H. ROOS", is written over the printed name.

P. H. ROOS

USS CHAMPION (MCM-4) 2001 CHRONOLOGICAL COMMAND HISTORY

January 1-2 - Inport Naval Station Ingleside, TX for Holiday Standdown. LCDR Kenneth L. Williams is Commanding Officer. LT Peter E. Smith is Executive Officer.

January 3-8 - Inport Naval Station Ingleside, TX for upkeep and mine onload.

January 9-10 - Underway Corpus Christi Operating Area(CCOA), TX for mine laying duties in support of Gulf of Mexico(GOMEX) 01-1.

January 11-February 11 - Inport Naval Station Ingleside, TX for upkeep.

February 12-14 - Underway CCOA, TX for Minesweeping Training, Minehunting Training, and Engineering Training in preparation for INSURV UMI.

February 15-25 - Inport Naval Station Ingleside, TX for upkeep.

February 26-27 - Inport Naval Station Ingleside, TX for inport portion of INSURV and SLQ-48 Mine Neutralization Vehicle(MNV) Demonstration.

February 28 - Underway CCOA, TX for Underway Material Inspection, Minesweeping, and SQQ-32 VDS Demonstration.

March 1-2 - Inport Naval Station Ingleside, TX for INSURV and upkeep.

March 3-26 - Inport Naval Station Ingleside, TX for Post Deployment Standdown.

March 27-April 1 - Inport Naval Station Ingleside, TX for upkeep.

April 2-6 - Inport Naval Station Ingleside, TX for Supply Management Assist.

April 7-11 - Inport Naval Station Ingleside, TX for upkeep.

April 9-11 - Conducted PreLight Off Training Phase I(PLOT I) with Afloat Training Group(ATG), Ingleside, TX.

April 12 - Underway from Naval Station Ingleside, TX to South West Marine(SWM) Shipyard for PMA.

April 13- July 23 - Inport SWM, Ingleside, TX for PMA.

April 16-20 - Shipboard Training Teams conduct training with ATG, Ingleside, TX.

April 23 - Crew Operation Risk Management Training, Naval Station Ingleside, TX.

April 30-May 4 - Supply Management Assist at SWM Ingleside, TX.

May 7-10 - Shipboard 3M Assist at SWM Ingleside, TX.

May 10 - Shipboard Safety Survey at SWM Ingleside, TX.

May 15 - Ground breaking of the CHAMPION Park at Aransas Pass Nursing Home, Aransas Pass, TX.

June 25-29 Conducted PreLight-Off Training Phase II (PLOT II) with ATG, Ingleside, TX

July 09-13 - Conducted Supply Management Inspection (SMI).

July 16-20 - Conducted PreLight-Off Training Phase III (PLOT III) with ATG, Ingleside, TX.

July 24-August 13 - Inport Naval Station Ingleside, TX, for PMA.

July 27 - Champion Park Dedication

August 7 - Change of Command. LCDR Philip H. Roos relieved CDR Kenneth L. Williams as Commanding Officer USS CHAMPION.

August 14-19 - Inport Naval Station Ingleside, TX, for Upkeep.

August 15-16 - Conducted Light-Off Assessment with N43, SURFLANT Norfolk, VA.

September 01-03 - Inport Naval Station Ingleside, TX, for Holiday Upkeep.

September 04-30 - Inport Naval Station Ingleside, TX, for Upkeep.

September 04-19 - Conducted Fleet Maintenance Availability (FMAV).

September 04-05 - Received Hull Cleaning

September 28 - Small Arms Proficiency/Qualification Shoot at Corpus Christi Gun Club.

October 05-08 - Underway enroute Naval Station Pascagoula, MS

October 09-14 - Inport Naval Station Pascagoula, MS for WEAX divert and repairs.

October 15-17 - Underway Panama City Operating Area (PCOA) for Type Training (TYT) ISO Commanding Officer's Time.

October 22-28 - Inport Naval Station Pascagoula, MS ISO CART II Preparations and Engineering Repairs.

October 29-30 - Underway Panama City Operating Area (PCOA) for Type Training (TYT) ISO Commanding Officer's Time.

October 31-November 04 - Inport Naval Station Pascagoula, MS for repairs.

November 05-09 - Underway Panama City Operating Area (PCOA) for Type Training (TYT) ISO CART II preparations.

November 10-11 - Inport Naval Air Station Pensacola, FL IOT embark
Afloat Training Group Ingleside (IATG).

November 12-17 - Underway enroute Naval Station Ingleside TX. Conducted
CART II with IATG.

November 17-December 14 - Inport Naval Station Ingleside, TX, for
Upkeep.

December 10-14 - Conducted 3M Assessment Ingleside, TX.

December 15-December 31 - Inport Naval Station Ingleside, TX, for
Holiday Leave and Upkeep.

USS CHAMPION 2001 NARRATIVE HISTORY

USS CHAMPION (MCM-4) was inport Naval Station Ingleside, TX from January 1st and 8th for Holiday Standdown and upkeep. On January 8th CHAMPION onloaded 13 inert mine-shapes to deploy in the Corpus Christi Operating Area (CCOA), TX. CHAMPION was underway January 9th and 10th for minelaying duties in support of the Gulf of Mexico Exercise 01-1(GOMEX 01-1). USS CHAMPION was inport from January 11th until February 11th for upkeep.

USS CHAMPION was underway February 12th through the 14th conducting Minesweeping, Minehunting, Mine Neutralization, and Engineering Training for the upcoming visit by the Board of Inspection and Survey (INSURV). CHAMPION was inport Naval Station Ingleside, TX from the 15th until the 25th of February for continued INSURV UMI preparations and upkeep. On February 26th CHAMPION commenced INSURV demonstrating various inport Preventive Maintenance System (PMS) and Engineering checks. On the 27th of February CHAMPION conducted a berth shift in order to demonstrate the AN/SLQ-48 Mine Neutralization Vehicle (MNV) in the Detect to Engage process in the Naval Station Ingleside basin. On the 28th of February CHAMPION conducted an Underway Material Inspection (UMI) for INSURV, in the CCOA. During the UMI the CHAMPION crew demonstrated Minesweeping, Full Power, Rudder Swing Checks, Counter Measure Wash Down, and other various PMS checks. CHAMPION was inport Naval Station Ingleside, TX the 1st and 2nd of March for the conclusion of INSURV.

USS CHAMPION conducted a Post Deployment Stand down from the 2nd until the 25th of March at Naval Station Ingleside, TX. CHAMPION received the Automatic Haul In feature for the AN/SQQ-32 Sonar from the 26th through the 29th of March. CHAMPION was inport Naval Station Ingleside, TX from the 30th of March until the 11th of April for upkeep. From the 2nd until the 6th of April CHAMPION was inport Naval Station Ingleside, TX conducting the first portion of the Supply Management Assist (SMA). CHAMPION conducted Pre-light off Training Phase I (PLOT I) with Afloat Training Group (ATG) Ingleside, reviewing Engineering Programs. On April 12th USS CHAMPION was towed to South West Marine Shipyard (SWM) Ingleside, TX for Phased Maintenance Availability (PMA). From April 16th until the 20th the Shipboard Training Teams conducted training with ATG Ingleside, TX. On the 23rd of April CHAMPION's crew conducted Operational Risk Management Training at Naval Station Ingleside, TX. From April 30th until May 4th CHAMPION completed the SMA.

USS CHAMPION conducted a 3M Assist with ATG Ingleside, TX from the 7th until the 10th of May. On May 10th CHAMPION hosted the Shipboard Safety Survey Team. May 15th the CHAMPION started the Community Relations Project by breaking ground on the CHAMPION Park at the Aransas Pass Nursing Home, Aransas Pass, TX.

CHAMPION worked on their Main Space Fire Drill throughout the month of June. Included in this was the PLOT II conducted with ATG Ingleside. CHAMPION also worked alongside the South West Marine Shipyard workers closing out the spaces and accepting them from the shipyard. The new ISCS System testing began in conjunction with the SYSCAL being conducted by SIMA Ingleside, TX.

ATG Ingleside conducted Supply Management Inspection (SMI) from July 09th until the 13th. At completion, CHAMPION had scored a 90 percent and qualified for the Logistics Management Excellence Award (Blue "E"). CHAMPION was automatically awarded the DLR management excellence award due to the outstanding Mark of 100 percent.

CHAMPION continued to exercise their Main Space Fire Drill while completing PMA. ATG returned to conduct PLOT III between July 16th and 20th. On July 24th CHAMPION was towed back the Naval Station Ingleside for the remainder of PMA.

July 27th - Champion Park was dedicated with residents of Aransas Pass Nursing and Rehabilitation, Aransas Pass and CHAMPION crewmembers in attendance. Enclosures 3 and 4 provide details on contributions made and conduct of the ceremony.

LCDR Philip H. Roos properly relieved CDR Kenneth L. Williams as Commanding Officer, USS CHAMPION, on August 7th, 2001. Enclosures ~~5~~ and ~~8~~ are provided as an account of the proceedings.

CHAMPION finished out the CNO's PMA on 13 August. A summary of work completed: Installation of ISCS to the engineering plant, Communications Suite Modification to include Information Technologies 21st Century (IT21) and Saturn B International Maritime Satellite Communication terminal/antenna (INMARSAT). In addition, CHAMPION's Visual Signal Shelter was removed significantly changing the outward appearance.

CHAMPION ATG Atlantic N43 onboard in August. The N43 team chaired by CDR Roos, conducted CHAMPION's Post Availability Light-Off Assessment from August 15th to the 16th. CHAMPION was deemed to have a clear path Light-Off and awarded a satisfactory grade for the Main Space Fire and Damage Control Training Team (DCTT). COMCMRON ONE (ISIC) returned and evaluated CHAMPION safe to light-off.

South Central Regional Maintenance Center (SCRMC) provided for Fleet Maintenance Availability between September 4th and 19th. During this Availability, CHAMPION received a hull cleaning on September 4th and 5th. 28 September - CHAMPION conducted a Ship-led small arms proficiency/qualification shoot at the Corpus Christi Gun Club. The expertise and professionalism of the Ship's Range Masters garnered the respect of the Range owners and assured the qualification of all who attended.

On October 5th CHAMPION sailed in company with USS HERON (MHC-52). CHAMPION and HERON, both units within Mine Countermeasures Squadron One, coordinated scheduled Commanding Officer's time in order to conduct robust six-week dual ship training. From October 5th until the 8th CHAMPION and HERON transited to Naval Station Pascagoula, MS, for a Brief Stop for Fuel. Due to worsening weather conditions, CHAMPION and HERON extended the stopover until 14 October. During this time both ships took advantage of the excellent Shore Intermediate Maintenance Activity (SIMA) and Fleet Technical Support Center (FTSCLANT) to affect some needed repairs. Commander Destroyer Squadron Six (COMDESRON 6) and the Naval Station support were outstanding in coordinating Arrival, Departures and services. The Naval Station also provided for CHAMPION's regular underwater security inspection.

Despite the current political situation and military posture following the September 11th attacks, both crews were able to enjoy some liberty. Crewmembers took advantage of Morale Welfare and Recreation facilities and services as well as the local city offerings.

CHAMPION sailed along with HERON on 15 October for the Panama City OPAREA (PCOA). While in the area, CHAMPION conducted Minehunting Operations and built up her Warfare proficiency. On October 18th CHAMPION and HERON returned to Pascagoula. CHAMPION remained in Pascagoula until 28 October in support of Command Assessment of Readiness and Training Phase II (CART II) and Engineering Repairs.

October 29th - CHAMPION and HERON again headed for the PCOA to complete Type Training. CHAMPION suffered a critical engineering

casualty, and had to return to port while HERON continued to the OPAREA. CHAMPION stayed inport until November 4th to make repairs. HERON returned to port as scheduled on 2 January.

November 5th - 8th CHAMPION and HERON completed their CO's Time in the PCOA. Both Ships were able to amass an incredible amount of hours minehunting. In addition, CHAMPION and HERON completed Mine Warfare Tasking as directed by COMCMRON ONE in support of Homeland Defense throughout the CO's Time.

The CHAMPION/HERON Group arrived at Naval Air Station Pensacola, FL on the 9th of November. CHAMPION and HERON sailors finalized CART II preparations and experience some great liberty between 10th and 11th of November. On the morning of the 12th CHAMPION and HERON embarked ATG Ingleside at NAS Pensacola for CART II.

12 November - CHAMPION and HERON demonstrated twelve hours of minehunting in the PCOA with ATG observers. During the conduct of CART II, CHAMPION and HERON executed a complex Schedule of Events that included Passenger Transfers between ships in order to provide for event demonstration with the limited number of observers provided. In addition, COMCMRON ONE, CHAMPION and HERON orchestrated a personnel transport of an ATG member with the assistance of a U.S. Coast Guard Helicopter. Between 12 November and 17 November, the two ships flexed to the maximum extent in order to complete CART II while U/W. At completion, CHAMPION demonstrated minehunting, minesweeping, Materiel Inspections, and Precision Anchoring.

On 17 November, CHAMPION and HERON returned to homeport, Naval Station Ingleside, TX. CHAMPION and HERON moored alongside each other, and finish out the year as training teammates. From 10 December to 14 December, CHAMPION conducted her last scheduled visit for the year - a 3M Assessment held by ATG Ingleside.

CHAMPION was a Leave and Upkeep period from 14 December until 31 December for the Holiday Season.