

OPNAVINST 5750.12J  
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Command Serial Number:  
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Classification (when filled in): UNCLAS

Encls: Ref (A): MCM CREW DOMINANT 2014 BATTLE EFFECTIVENESS AND  
COMMAND EXCELLENCE AWARDS SUBMISSION.

## **Command Operations Report**

This report is **required** by commands listed in **SNDL Parts 1 & 2** and **all** operational **Task Forces, Groups and Units** temporarily established to meet operational requirements. The report format is divided into six sections: Command Data, Commander's Assessment, Chronology and Narrative, Supporting Reports, Published Documents, and Photographs. Required information is identified in specific sections of the form. Instructions on submitting this form and the required attachments are at the end.

### **1. Command Data**

Name of your Command or Organization: **MCM Crew DOMINANT/USS CHAMPION (MCM 4)**

Unit Identification Code (UIC), per the SNDL: **40171**

Name and Rank of Commander/Commanding Officer/Officer in Charge:

Last: **Petro** First: **Christopher** M.I.: **W** Rank: **LCDR**

Date assumed command: **2015-01-20**

Mission, command employment or area of operations: **To find, classify, and destroy moored and bottom mines. Utilize video systems, cable cutters and mine detonating devices to clear vital waterways of mine threats.**

Permanent Location (Home Port for deployable units): **San Diego, California**

Immediate Superior in Command:

Operational: **Mine Counter Measures Squadron Three**

Administrative: **Mine Counter Measures Squadron Three**

Identify your assigned Task Force/Group/Unit name(s) and mission(s). Include OPLAN(s) and or named operations you participated in during Task Force assignment (if applicable): **N/A**

Name(s) of Forces, Commands, Ships, Squadrons or Units assigned or under your operational control (if applicable): **N/A**

Type and number of Aircraft Assigned and Tail Codes, if applicable: **N/A**

Commands, Detachments or Units deployed on board or stationed aboard as tenant activities (as applicable): **N/A**

Number of Personnel Assigned:

Officers: 14      Enlisted: 87      Civilian: 0

Command Point of Contact:

**ENS [REDACTED]**  
**Combat Information Center Officer**

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

## **2. Commanders Assessment:**

MCM Crew DOMINANT started the year, forward deployed to FIFTH Fleet, embarked in USS GLADIATOR (MCM 11) home ported in Bahrain. We were there to provide the Operational Commander a surface mine-countermeasure asset in support of operations in the C5F AOR.

In March, Crew DOMINANT returned to San Diego, CA to take possession of USS CHAMPION (MCM 4) from MCM Crew CONSTANT embarked in USS SCOUT (MCM 8). SCOUT was assigned caretaker of CHAMPION until Crew DOMINANT took title 10 possession. The ship was in a CMAV and in need of ownership and the pride that is associated. Crew DOMINANT had a reputation of making ships INSURV ready in a short time. We were definitely the right crew for USS CHAMPION. There were several long standing CASREPs, most significant being the Magnetic Minesweep Gas Turbine Generator (MMGTG), which had been out of commission for well over a year. The MMGTG is a significant piece of minesweeping equipment that the Engineering Department personnel were able to repair within 2 months.

The most significant exercise in which the command participated was Rim of the Pacific (RIMPAC) 2014. CHAMPION was one of many assets participating in the San Diego based portion of the exercise. It was a steep learning curve, but the entire crew did very well. We deployed the Mine Neutralization Vehicle (MNV) a record 73 times visually identifying 7 mines. We were fully operational the entire time. RIMPAC '14 was a solid success for CHAMPION.

The most significant inspection and by far the largest hurdle of the year was the Type Commander's Mid-Cycle Inspection (MCI) in November. Eight months after taking possession

of CHAMPION was MCI. There was just enough time to be ready, but it was jammed packed with multiple certifications, assist visits, maintenance trials and training (see the list below). Through hard work, dedication to duty and pride, the crew was successful every step of the way, including the MCI. We had the first ever Information Security score of “green” for an MCI. CHAMPION had the highest figure of merit score of the year and scored above the INSURV class average for MCMs which led to CHAMPION receiving the inaugural Vice Admiral Thomas H. Copeman III, Material readiness Award for 2014 for ships 15 years and greater. It was an exhausting effort by each and every crew member, but the success in the end truly made it worth it. The lesson learned – strict adherence to the 3M program, procedural compliance, and an aggressive Zone Inspection program fueled with Sailors that have pride in their ship and pride in their Crew is a recipe for success.

The next and final item for the year was the Commodore’s new Evaluator training program. CHAMPION being the only operational MCM in San Diego was tasked to go to sea to train in Mine Warfare. The direction was to go to the Imperial Beach Minefield and hunt for mines, sweep for mines, build proficiency in the Evaluators (TAOs) and the crew. Put simply, we were to spend 100% of the time at sea training to do what we were built for...killing mines.

### **3. Chronology Narrative:**

**MCM Crew DOMINANT participated in the following exercises/operations/events during CY14:**

#### **INCONUS:**

- (1) Hull Turnover of CHAMPION (14 March 2014)
- (2) Sked 3.2 Conversion (31 March – 04 April 2014)
- (3) NavCheck Ride/ULT (15-18 April 2014)
- (4) 3M 1.1/1.2 (28-30 April 2014)
- (5) Deepwater AIMS Acoustic Trials (08-12 May 2014)
- (6) ULT/EOD Integration Training (19-23 May 2014)
- (7) Supply 1.1 (27-30 May 2014)
- (8) SAR 1.1/1.2/1.3 (27-29 May 2014)
- (9) CARL VINSON CSG JTFEX (04-09 June 2014)

- (10) 3M LTT (10-12 June 2014)
- (11) CMAV 4A3 (12 June – 06 July 2014)
- (12) SAR 1.4 (16-17 June 2014)
- (13) 3M 1.3 (26-27 June 2014)
- (14) Supply 1.2 (01-03 July 2014)
- (15) RIMPAC 2014 (07-14 July and 17-29 July 2014)
- (16) FCA Certification (31 July 2014)
- (17) 3M LTT (30 July – 01 August 2014)
- (18) MCI PIA I (04-08 August 2014)
- (19) CMAV 4A4 (11 August – 10 September 2014)
- (20) ERAT (18 August – 12 September 2014)
- (21) Supply 1.3 (19-21 August 2014)
- (22) MIW LTT (02-04 September 2014)
- (23) 3M LTT (08 September 2014)
- (24) MCI PIA II (09-12 September 2014)
- (25) TSRA-7 (15-26 September 2014)
- (26) MCI PIA III (30 September – 03 October 2014)
- (27) 3M 1.4 Certification (06-08 October 2014)
- (28) ERAT (13-24 October 2014)
- (29) MCI PIA IV (21-24 October 2014)
- (30) MCI Part I/rehearsals (29-31 October 2014)
- (31) MCI PIA V (04-07 November 2014)
- (32) TYCOM MCI (12-14 November 2014)

- (33) MIW Training/ULT (02-05 December 2014)
- (34) CMAV 5A1 (08-31 December 2014)
- (35) 2M Certification (09 December 2014)
- (36) Supply 1.4 Certification (15-19 December 2014)

#### **OCONUS:**

- (1) Kuwait TSC (06-07 January 2014 and 13-14 January 2014)
- (2) KLEIN Survey Operations (08-12 January 2014)
- (3) AIMS Range (17-19 January 2014)
- (4) FCA Certification (20 January 2014)
- (5) ULT/US-UK SQUADDEX (23-29 January 2014)
- (6) CMAV 4A2 (02-06 February 2014)
- (7) Hull Turnover of GLADIATOR (06 February 2014)

### **4. Narrative:**

See Ref (A): MCM CREW DOMINANT 2014 BATTLE EFFECTIVENESS AND COMMAND EXCELLENCE AWARDS SUBMISSION.

### **5. Supporting Reports:**

See Ref (A): MCM CREW DOMINANT 2014 BATTLE EFFECTIVENESS AND COMMAND EXCELLENCE AWARDS SUBMISSION.

### **6. Published Documents:**

Command Web Page URL: <http://www.public.navy.mil/surfor/MCM4/Pages/default.aspx>

### **7. Photographs:**



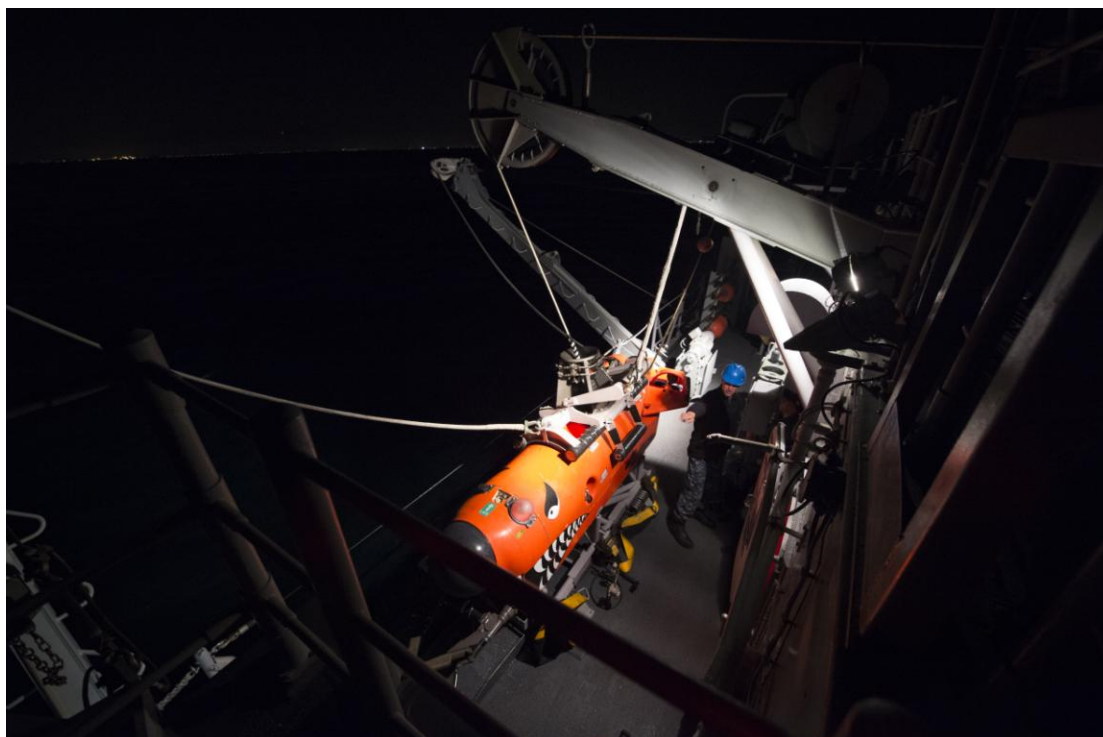
**LCDR Christopher W. Petro, Commanding Officer (APR15)**



**LCDR Joseph C. Burgon, Executive Officer (APR15)**



**USS CHAMPION MCM-4 (JUN15)**



**Mine Neutralization Vehicle (MNV) (APR15)**