



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
COMMANDING OFFICER
USS CHICAGO (SSN 721)
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From: Commanding Officer, USS CHICAGO (SSN 721)

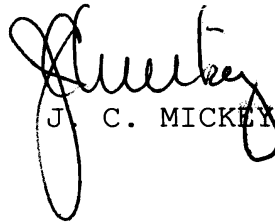
To: Chief of Naval Operations (NO9BH)

Subj: USS CHICAGO COMMAND HISTORY FOR 1998

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12F

Encl: (1) Command Composition and Organization
(2) Chronology of Events for 1998
(3) Narrative for 1998
(4) Commanding Officer's Biography
(5) USS CHICAGO (SSN 721) Personnel Information

1. As required by reference (a), enclosures (1) through (5) are submitted as the command history for USS CHICAGO (SSN 721) for calendar year 1998.


J. C. MICKEY

Copy to:
COMSUBRON THREE

COMMAND COMPOSITION AND ORGANIZATION

1. Mission: The USS CHICAGO is a vertical launch capable Los Angeles class nuclear fast attack submarine. The ship is capable of operations in the mission areas of undersea warfare (USW), surface warfare (SUW), strike warfare (STW), mine warfare (MIW), special warfare (SPECWAR) and intelligence gathering and surveillance.
2. Organizational Structure: Commander, Submarine Squadron THREE (ISIC).
3. Commanding Officer: CDR John C. Mickey, USN
4. Permanent duty station: Pearl Harbor, HI

CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS FOR 1998

01 JAN 98 - 04 JAN 98	INPORT PEARL HARBOR, HI OBSERVING HOLIDAY STAND- DOWN PERIOD
05 JAN 98 - 06 JAN 98	BERTH SHIFT TO WEST LOCH FOR LOADING WEAPONS
07 JAN 98 - 08 JAN 98	INPORT PEARL HARBOR, HI
09 JAN 98 - 20 JAN 98	TRANSIT TO SASEBO, JAPAN
21 JAN 98 - 22 JAN 98	INPORT SASEBO, JAPAN
23 JAN 98 - 06 FEB 98	TRANSIT TO CHINHAE, SOUTH KOREA
07 FEB 98 - 08 FEB 98	INPORT CHINHAE, SOUTH KOREA
09 FEB 98 - 14 FEB 98	KOREA OPS
15 FEB 98 - 17 FEB 98	INPORT CHINHAE, SOUTH KOREA
18 FEB 98 - 23 FEB 98	TRANSIT TO YOKOSUKA, JAPAN
24 FEB 98 - 04 MAR 98	INPORT YOKOSUKA, JAPAN FOR UPKEEP
05 MAR 98 - 08 MAR 98	TRANSIT TO APRA HARBOR, GUAM
09 MAR 98 - 14 MAR 98	INPORT APRA HARBOR, GUAM
15 MAR 98 - 20 MAR 98	UNDERWAY FOR CONEX
21 MAR 98 - 21 MAR 98	MOORED APRA HARBOR, GUAM
21 MAR 98 - 29 MAR 98	TRANSIT TO PEARL HARBOR, HI
30 MAR 98 - 12 APR 98	INPORT PEARL HARBOR, HI

13 APR 98 - 15 APR 98

BERTH SHIFT TO WEST LOCH
FOR WEAPONS OFF-LOAD

16 APR 98 - 13 MAY 98

BERTH SHIFT TO B-11
PEARL HARBOR NAVAL
SHIPYARD,
PEARL HARBOR, HI

14 MAY 98 - 31 DEC 98

DRY-DOCK #3,
PEARL HARBOR NAVAL
SHIPYARD,
PEARL HARBOR, HI FOR
DEPOT MODERNIZATION
PERIOD

NARRATIVE

During calendar year 1998, USS CHICAGO was involved in various international exercises, training support, and maintenance preparations for the ship's planned overhaul period. Following the holiday stand down period in early January 1998, CHICAGO transited to the Western Pacific Ocean to perform a three month deployment and returned to Pearl Harbor in late March to plan for a year-long overhaul, referred to as a Depot Modernization Period (DMP). The varied tasking of the short deployment and the lengthy planning of DMP improved both the ship's tactical and maintenance proficiency.

After arriving in Sasebo, Japan, CHICAGO entered the Sea of Japan and participated in a two-week long multi-national maritime exercise involving several navies from the Pacific Rim. The coordinated exercise provided excellent opportunities to improve the ship's tactical proficiency in various warfare roles. CHICAGO stealthily operated in the high contact environment and supported many training facets of the exercise. The organization and planning of the exercise stressed international engagement and cooperation among the many nations. As the Pacific Ocean becomes the dominant international arena, annual training exercises such as these continue to grow more important to U.S. foreign policy.

After participating in joint exercises, CHICAGO returned to Sasebo, Japan and participated in annual training with submarines of the Japanese Maritime Self-Defence Force (JMSDF). CHICAGO operated with six JMSDF submarines during the JMSDF annual submarine competition, and later earned recognition as the best of all participants, an honor never bestowed upon a foreign submarine during the exercise. The exercise afforded CHICAGO a unique opportunity to train with foreign diesel submarines and discuss submarine tactics with members of a highly capable submarine force.

Following another brief return to Sasebo, CHICAGO crossed the Sea of Japan and visited Chinhae, Republic of Korea (ROK) for training and exercises with ROK Navy submarines. CHICAGO sailors enjoyed similar engagements on land and at sea with ROK Navy personnel as they had in Japan, strengthening ties made previously through other U.S. Navy visits. CHICAGO departed Chinhae for two more port calls before returning to Pearl Harbor and completing the deployment. After completing a brief, four day transit, CHICAGO entered Tokyo Bay and moored at Yokosuka, Japan for crew liberty and to perform minor scheduled repairs. With the crew refreshed and the ship repaired, CHICAGO departed for Guam to support Special Operations Force training with submarines. Working with U.S. Marine reconnaissance forces, CHICAGO hosted and trained a platoon sized unit in submarine launch and recovery while performing a simulated strike at a nearby island.

Upon arrival in Pearl Harbor in late March, CHICAGO made preparations for entering drydock in Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard. The shallow draft of the particular drydock required special Buoyancy Assist Modules (BAMS) attached to CHICAGO's hull to add buoyancy to the ship and reduce the ship's draft. After entering the drydock, the temporary BAMS were removed when the ship was safely on the drydock keel

blocks. This was the first use of BAMS in Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard. CHICAGO is scheduled to overhaul much of the ship's hull, mechanical and electrical systems to extend the life of the ship during DMP. The maintenance and subsequent testing is scheduled to be completed in July of next year.