



**DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY**

USS COLUMBUS (SSN 762)

FPO AP 96662-2418

5750

Ser 084

13 May 04

From: Commanding Officer, USS COLUMBUS (SSN 762)  
To: Director of Naval History (OP-09 BH), 805 Kidder Breese  
SE, Washington Navy Yard, Washington, DC 20374-0571

Subj: COMMAND HISTORY

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12H

Encl: (1) Command Composition and Organization  
(2) Chronology  
(3) Narrative

1. Per reference (a), enclosures (1) through (3) are submitted.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "C. F. KLINE".

C. F. KLINE

By direction

**USS COLUMBUS (SSN 762)**  
**COMMAND COMPOSITION AND ORGANIZATION**  
**FOR JANUARY 2003 to DECEMBER 2003**

SNDL Short Title: USS COLUMBUS (SSN 762)  
UIC: 21692

USS COLUMBUS (SSN 762) is the fifty-first ship of the Los Angeles class, and the twelfth of the improved version. With stealth, endurance and agility, COLUMBUS can be used in roles and missions to meet the challenges of the ever-changing global geopolitical climate. COLUMBUS has the ability to arrive on station quickly, stay for an extended period of time and covertly carry out multiple missions including undersea warfare (USW), anti-surface warfare (ASUW), deployment of special operation forces, mine laying, precision strike land attack or deterrence through perceived presence. Home-ported in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, she is under the cognizance of Submarine Squadron SEVEN.

Commanding Officer:	<u>CDR Michael B. Ryan</u>
Executive Officer:	<u>LCDR Christopher F. Kline</u>
Engineer Officer:	<u>LCDR [REDACTED]</u>
Navigator:	<u>LCDR [REDACTED]</u>
Combat Systems Officer:	<u>LT [REDACTED]</u>
Supply Officer:	<u>LT [REDACTED]</u>
Chief of the Boat:	<u>MMCM(SS) William A. Roberts</u>

**USS COLUMBUS (SSN 762)  
CHRONOLOGY FOR JAN 2003 TO DEC 2003**

<u>DATE</u>	<u>EVENT</u>
01 JAN - 12 JAN	IN PORT: PEARL HARBOR, HI
13 JAN - 17 JAN	BASIC SUBMARINE ASSESSMENT
18 JAN - 23 JAN	BATTERY REPLACEMENT
30 JAN - 03 FEB	UNDERWAY
04 FEB	IN PORT: PEARL HARBOR, HI
05 FEB - 10 FEB	PROSPECTIVE COMMANDING OFFICER OPS
12 FEB - 13 FEB	IN PORT: PEARL HARBOR, HI
14 FEB - 26 FEB	ASAT TESTING PROSPECTIVE COMMANDING OFFICER OPS
22 FEB - 26 FEB	IN PORT: PEARL HARBOR, HI
27 FEB - 05 MAR	WORKUP
06 MAR - 13 MAR	DOCKSIDE ASAT TESTING
15 MAR - 29 MAR	ASAT TESTING TACTICAL READINESS EVALUATION WORKUP TACTICAL READINESS EVALUATION
30 MAR - 07 MAY	PRE-OVERSEAS MOVEMENT UPKEEP 1
08 MAY - 19 MAY	TRANSIT
23 MAY - 27 MAY	IN PORT: SAN DIEGO, CA
28 MAY - 05 JUN	TOMA BART TRANSIT
06 JUN - 12 JUN	FIRE CONTROL SYSTEM REPAIR
13 JUN - 02 JUL	ENGINEERING OPERATIONAL TRAINING ASSIST OPERATIONAL REACTOR SAFEGUARDS EXAM
03 JUL - 08 JUL	IN PORT: PEARL HARBOR, HI
09 JUL - 16 JUL	UNDERWAY
17 JUL - 27 AUG	PRE-OVERSEAS MOVEMENT UPKEEP 2
28 AUG - 05 SEP	TUBA CERTIFICATION
06 SEP - 24 SEP	ATTACK CENTER WORKUP
25 SEP - 09 OCT	WORKUP PRE-OVERSEAS MOVEMENT CERTIFICATION
11 OCT - 27 OCT	IN PORT: PEARL HARBOR, HI
28 OCT - 18 NOV	DEPLOY TO WESTERN PACIFIC ANNUAL EXERCISE WITH JAPAN
19 NOV - 02 DEC	IN PORT: YOKOSUKA, JA
03 DEC - 09 DEC	TRANSIT
10 DEC - 16 DEC	IN PORT: SINGAPORE
16 DEC - 31 DEC	AT-SEA OPERATIONS

**USS COLUMBUS (SSN 762)**  
**NARRATIVE FOR JAN 2003 TO DEC 2003**

In January we completed a Basic Submarine Assessment (BSA) and a battery replacement maintenance period.

February found COLUMBUS intimately engaged in Prospective Commanding Officer (PCO) operations; this tasking afforded her the opportunity to work with two very distinct groups of PCOs, and experience nearly every mission available to the Silent Service. In addition to preparations for a Tactical Readiness Evaluation, the COLUMBUS completed several exercises for the certification of the AN/BYG-1 Fire Control System. These certification exercises culminated with the first test launch of an Operational Test Launch TLAM Missile in Southern California Operational Areas.

COLUMBUS spent a number of days in the port of San Diego, and the crew took full advantage of the attractions the area has to offer. This was a beneficial call as it preceded a tense transit back to Pearl Harbor and the rigorous preparation for and execution of an Operational Reactor Safety Exam (ORSE).

From February through July COLUMBUS spent many days underway, launched 30 exercise weapons, conducted numerous exercise strikes, and practiced all elements of submarine operations.

As a reward for our stolid showing during the ORSE and its work-up, COLUMBUS enjoyed a brief weekend stand-down over the Fourth of July; this allowed the crew a greatly desired respite to participate in the local festivities. Upon the middle of the following week, we set sail yet again for strike certification.

Having completed her pre-deployment certification for Tomahawk Strike Operations and a period of upkeep during which we addressed all the requisite maintenance issues prior to our deployment, we conducted advanced training sessions intended to mimic the scenarios COLUMBUS might encounter on her travels overseas. These exercises culminated in COLUMBUS being certified to deploy to the Western Pacific Ocean.

Following a rapid transit across the Pacific Ocean to Yokosuka, Japan, we participated ANNUALEX 2003, the annual exercise that simulates the defense of Japan. The exercise involved the USS KITTY HAWK Battle Group, and numerous Japanese warships. COLUMBUS was specifically congratulated on her "brilliant" performance.

Originally detailed to be an aggressor asset, COLUMBUS was reassigned as a hunter-killer in defense of the battle group and her supporting forces. Going head-to-head with USS SANTA FE, COLUMBUS executed two direct kills, and then in the spirit of good sportsmanship vectored in battle group assets so KITTY HAWK herself could score a kill. The events were regarded as highly successful for all involved.

Immediately after the exercise, COLUMBUS made a port call in Yokosuka for approximately two weeks. While shipboard work was a necessary aspect of the visit, the crew enjoyed a good amount of liberty. The crew visited Tokyo, Kamakura, and Mount Fuji, in addition to enjoying the pleasures of The Honche, which lies just outside the confines of the Naval Base in Yokosuka.

We were fortunate enough to be able to celebrate the Thanksgiving Holiday in port, and the Tokyo American Club graciously invited a number of the crew to participate in their celebration. Local families also served as sponsors to some crewmembers, and others were able to fly in loved ones for the occasion.

Not having had enough of liberty, USS COLUMBUS set sail for One Degree North and the beautiful island nation of Singapore. Everyone took full advantage of the city and her surroundings, to see such sights as Sentosa Island, Chinatown, and Little India, and to experience such places as Raffles and the Singapore Sling. A number of our loved ones were also able to meet us there, a wonderful surprise before the holiday season, during which we were underway.

Fully refreshed after a nearly a month of recreation and open-ocean transits, COLUMBUS set forth for her true purpose; she closed the year, underway, on a mission vital to National Security.