



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

USS CURTS (FFG 38) ✓

FLEET POST OFFICE

SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA 96662-1493

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From: Commanding Officer, USS CURTS (FFG 38)
To: Director of Naval History (OP 09B4), Washington Navy Yard, Washington,
DC 20374-0571

Subj: COMMAND HISTORY USS CURTS (FFG 38), YEAR 1987(6) 1987

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12D

1. In accordance with reference (a), the Command History of USS CURTS (FFG 38) is hereby submitted.

2. JANUARY: Calendar Year 1987 began with USS CURTS at her homeport, Long Beach, CA in a holiday leave and upkeep status until 4 January. CURTS remained inport Long Beach until 11 January. CURTS sailed 12 January ISE to the Southern California Acoustic Range. From 13-19 January CURTS participated in COMPTUEX 87-1 with COMDESRON THREE ONE, during which CURTS conducted both a SVTT shot and a LAMPS MK III attack on a MK 38 target. Included in COMPTUEX 87-1 was Sharem 68 (17-19 January) in which CURTS successfully maintained contact on a 594 Class SSN target. CURTS returned to Long Beach on 19 January. On 21 January CURTS began her OPBRE conducting her underway portion on 23 January. After successfully passing OPBRE, on 24 January CURTS started her second upkeep period in Long Beach which lasted through 29 January. 30 January found CURTS in Naval Weapon Station, Seal Beach for an ammo offload after which she returned to Long Beach and continued her upkeep period through 31 January.

3. FEBRUARY: On 1 February CURTS concluded her upkeep period and commenced SRA-1 at Long Beach with Southwest Marine lasting through the remainder of the month.

4. MARCH: Continuing SRA-1 through 13 March CURTS entered RAV until 25 March. 26-27 March, CURTS conducted successful Sea Trials for SRA-1. 28 March through the end of the month CURTS remained inport Long Beach undergoing upkeep.

5. APRIL: Continuing her upkeep period through 5 April, CURTS again found herself at Naval Weapon Station, Seal Beach, CA for her weapons onload on 6 April and returned to Long Beach the same day. Inport Long Beach for one day, CURTS got underway 8 April for ASWOPS 87-2 in which CURTS tested the effectiveness of U.S. ASW assets against simulated New Generation Soviet SSN's in U.S. Coastal Waters. ASWOPS 87-2 lasted until 22 April when CURTS arrived inport Esquimalt, B.C.. 24 April CURTS spent at sea enroute Vancouver, B.C., arriving 25 April in Vancouver. CURTS' port visit lasted until 26 April getting underway on the 27th for the Nanoose Torpedo Testing Range, Nanoose, B.C. where CURTS took part in the testing of various exercise torpedoes. CURTS' surface launched and helo dropped torpedoes successfully acquired the test targets during the exercises. CURTS spent the remainder of April in transit to Long Beach. LCDR Charles Souder relieved LCDR Robert Hartling as Executive Officer.

6. MAY: 02-18 May CURTS remained inport Long Beach in an upkeep status until participating in COMPTUEX 87-2 19-22 May with DESRON 31 in which CURTS achieved a skin to skin missile to target engagement with an SM1 MR. Arriving inport Long Beach 23 May, CURTS spent the rest of the month in an upkeep status.

7. JUNE: Amidst selected COMCRUDESGRU 3 ships CURTS spent 1-3 June underway enroute Portland, OR for the Portland Rose Festival where CURTS remained inport Portland from 4-8 June. 9-12 June was spent underway Group Sail enroute Long Beach. Upon arrival Long Beach on 12 June, CURTS was given short notice orders for Western Pacific/Indian Ocean Deployment to occur 6 weeks after receipt of that notice. The remainder of June was spent in upkeep status inport Long Beach.

8. JULY: Completing inport upkeep CURTS again was underway in the SOCAL OPAREAS for Battle Group preparations in READIEX 87-5 with Battle Group Sierra and COMCRUDESGRU ONE from 10 July to 18 July. 19 July thru 24 July was spent inport Long Beach in a pre-overseas movement status. 25 July marks the day that CURTS was underway for her first WESTPAC since commissioning. Upon arriving in the vicinity of the Hawaiian OPAREAS, CURTS participated in Varsity Scrimmage 87-3 which started 31 July.

9. AUGUST: CURTS continued her WESTPAC transit and Varsity Scrimmage in which CURTS successfully fired an exercise torpedo shot at an Orange Force SSN. Varsity Scrimmage concluded on 2 August as CURTS continued westward. CURTS spent 16-20 August inport Subic Bay, Republic of Philippines, where she took on supplies and made minor repairs and ship preservation. 21 August through remainder of month CURTS spent enroute to the North Arabian Sea, during which time CURTS successfully participated in an encounter exercise against USS WORDEN and USS CROMMELIN.

10. SEPTEMBER: CURTS spent the month of September in the North Arabian Sea and Gulf of Oman where she conducted operations in support of U.S. policy under command of COMCARGRU ONE, as part of BATTLEGROUP ECHO.

11. OCTOBER: Operations in the North Arabian Sea were continued throughout the month with specific highlights interspersed. CURTS conducted a MINEX to determine feasibility and capabilities of using the SQS-56 Sonar against mines. 5-6 October CURTS was anchored off the coast of Masirah for a Battleship Availability with the USS MISSOURI. 16 October was the day that CINCPACFLT visited CURTS as part of his MIDEASTFOR tour. October marked the month in which CURTS' Change of Command took place. CDR David J. Alexander relieved CDR Timothy A. French as Commanding Officer of CURTS on 26 October. For her participation in the operations in the Gulf of Oman, CURTS along with the rest of Battle Group Echo was awarded the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal.

12. NOVEMBER: CURTS detached from Battle Group Echo on 1 November, enroute Cochin India where she spent 5-8 November in port. Underway again on 9 November, CURTS spent the next three days enroute to Diego Garcia, British Indian Ocean Territory, making the first time that CURTS had crossed the equator. Arriving in Diego Garcia 12 November, CURTS spent the remainder of the month in a Tender Availability with the USS JASON.

13. DECEMBER: CURTS departed Diego Garcia enroute Fremantle Australia in company with Battle Group Sierra on 1 December. Arriving in Fremantle on 9 December CURTS made a portvisit in Fremantle until getting underway again on the 16th. Arriving in Brisbane Australia on 23 December, CURTS enjoyed her second Australian port visit until getting underway on 30 December enroute Pearl Harbor, HI.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D J Alexander", with a stylized, cursive script.

D. J. ALEXANDER, CDR, USN
COMMANDING OFFICER