

OPNAVINST 5750.12K
DNS-H
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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. See instructions appendices for assistance in compiling and on submitting this form and any attachments.

Electronic documents should be in a Microsoft Office format (Word, Excel, Power Point, or Access), HTML, PDF, JPG, GIF or plain text. Documents in electronic format are to be submitted via e-mail or on CD-ROM as explained at the end of this form. It is unnecessary to convert non-electronic documents to electronic format. List any enclosures that are not electronic and submit in hardcopy in the same manner as a CD-ROM. Photographs submitted electronically should be in JPG, TIFF or GIF format.

1. Command Data (Boxes will expand as information is typed)

Name of your Command or Organization: USS DECATUR (DDG 73)

Unit Identification Code (UIC), per the SNDL: N21947

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

Last: MILLER First: GARRETT M.I.: H Rank: CDR

Date Assumed Command (date format YYYY-MM-DD): 2015-05-29

Mission/Command Employment/Area of Operations: U.S. THIRD Fleet

Permanent Location (Home Port for deployable units): NAVAL BASE SAN DIEGO, SAN DIEGO CALIFORNIA

Immediate Superior In Command:

Operational: Commander, Destroyer Squadron TWO ONE

Administrative: Commander, Destroyer Squadron TWO ONE

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): Carrier Strike Group THREE/JOHN C. STENNIS STRIKE GROUP

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: 35 Enlisted: 302 Civilian: 0

Command Point of Contact (required entry, complete in full):

Name (Rank, First Name, Middle Initial, Last Name): LT [REDACTED]

Job Title/Office Code: Asst. Planning and Tactics

E-mail (both classified and unclassified, if available): [REDACTED]

Phone number(s): [REDACTED]

Command Mailing Address: FPO AP 96663-1290

2. Commander's Assessment

DECATUR demonstrated her continued excellence and dedication to operational readiness with sustained performance throughout the year of 2015. She began the year six months into an eight month Drydocking Selective Restrictive Availability period that challenged the crew to safely supervise significant repairs and upgrades to the ship's Combat Systems suite and Engineering plant and to maintain critical operational skills despite a high rate of crew turnover and few opportunities to operate equipment during the yard period. DECATUR not only met these challenges but also concluded her yard period less than one month behind schedule – an unprecedented feat for a ship of her class. DECATUR's dedication to a safe work environment during her yard period prevented costly and time-consuming mishaps and greatly contributed to

her success. DECATUR's innovative shipyard safety program "Safety Raider" and BAE Safety Walkthrough programs demonstrated her conscious efforts to enforce safe practices on board. To ensure her crew was prepared to enter the Basic Phase, DECATUR ensured school attendance was a priority for her sailors, a practice that continued throughout CY15 resulting in 132 of 144 mission critical Navy Enlisted Code job requirements being filled by year's end. Focusing on safety and training set the ship up for success when her Basic Phase began in February.

DECATUR began her steady march towards operational readiness when she scored a 96% on her Engineering Light-Off Assessment, a mere 10 days after the engine rooms, intake, and uptake spaces were turned over to the crew from the BAE Shipyard contractors. In rapid succession the crew conducted successful Dock Trials, Fast Cruise, Contractor Sea Trials, and Navigation Check Ride, returning to sea for the first time in 304 days.

The ship's exceptional Basic Phase performance continued, scoring 98% on the Anti-Terrorism Force Protection Certification, 99% on Mobility – Navigation Certification, and 95% on Mobility – Seamanship Certification. The Afloat Training Group Senior Assessor for Mobility - Navigation remarked that the navigation drill set was "a nearly flawless performance." During Mobility - Seamanship, DECATUR executed the first towing of an LCS Independence Class ship by a Destroyer, as well as receiving 100% in small boat operations and 98% in the mooring to a buoy evolution. DECATUR passed Mobility – Damage Control Certification with an average score of 88%, with all three lockers scoring 100% on responding to structural damage – proving that the crew was not only ready to return to sea but also to fight the casualties she might encounter there. Concurrently, DECATUR conducted Supply Management Certification, scoring a 90.91%, and overall grade of "Excellent."

As the ship progressed through the Basic Phase her focus shifted to combat warfare readiness. DECATUR participated in three PACOM Ballistic Missile Defense Operational Readiness Events, three BMD Exercises and certified in Ballistic Missile Defense, her primary mission. Additionally, DECATUR maintained a 90% average on the THIRD Fleet Cryptologic Challenge, well-above the 82% Fleet average and DECATUR's third year of exceptional performance. Two combat watch teams met and exceeded certification requirements in just over two days with an overall score of 97% at Unit Level Fleet Synthetic Training.

DECATUR is always ready. The ship quickly transitioned from an intrusive 10-month docking yard period into a go-to ship ready for any tasking. DECATUR continued to live up to

her “Bold and Daring” lineage in the year 2015 and I am confident she is set up for an equally impressive 2016.

3. Chronology

USS DECATUR (DDG 73)

JAN15-DEC15 EVENTS

2015-01-01 – 2015-02-20	In Port, BAE Systems San Diego Ship Repair Shipyard
2015-01-01 – 2015-05-01	Dry-Docking Selective Restricted Availability Total Ship Readiness Assessment III
2015-02-09 – 2015-02-12	Anti-Terrorism Force Protection Assessment 1.1
2015-02-09 – 2015-02-13	Mobility – Damage Control Assessment 1.1A
2015-02-17 – 2015-02-20	Mobility – Engineering Assessment 1.0 Mobility – Damage Control Assessment 1.1B
2015-02-20	Deadstick to Naval Base San Diego
2015-02-20 – 2015-04-26	In Port, Naval Base San Diego
2015-02-23 – 2015-02-27	Anti-Terrorism Force Protection Assessment 1.2
2015-02-26	Mobility – Damage Control Assessment 1.1A Remediation
2015-03-02 – 2015-03-06	Mobility – Engineering Assessment 1.0
2015-03-06	Air Warfare Assessment 1.1
2015-03-09 – 2015-03-13	Mobility – Seamanship Limited Team Training
2015-03-17 – 2015-03-19	Fleet Support Operations – Medical Assessment 1.1
2015-03-19 – 2015-03-20	Ballistic Missile Defense Limited Team Training
2015-03-20	Mobility – Damage Control 1.1A Remediation
2015-03-23 – 2015-03-27	Mobility – Engineering Assessment 1.0 Anti-Terrorism Force Protection Assessment 1.3
2015-03-30 – 2015-04-03	Mobility – Engineering 1.0 (Mock Light-off Assessment) Supply Assessment 1.1 Mobility – Seamanship Assessment 1.1

2015-04-02	Anti-Terrorism Assessment 1.4B
2015-04-03	Anti-Terrorism Assessment 1.4A
2015-04-07 – 2015-04-08	Mobility – Engineering Limited Team Training
2015-04-13 – 2015-04-15	Mobility – Engineering 1.1A (Light-Off Assessment)
2015-04-13 – 2015-04-17	Mobility – Navigation Assessment 1.1 Mobility – Seamanship Assessment 1.2
2015-04-13 – 2015-05-01	Readiness Evaluation 4
2015-04-15	Crew Certification
2015-04-16	Commander, Naval Surface Forces Pacific Anti-Terrorism Force Protection Spotcheck
2015-04-21 – 2015-04-22	Pacific Command Operational Readiness Exercise
2015-04-22	Dock Trials
2015-04-23	Ammunition Onload
2015-04-23 – 2015-04-24	Fast Cruise
2015-04-27	Navigation Check Ride
2015-04-27 – 2015-05-01	Underway Southern California Operating Area Contractor Sea Trials Fleet Support Operations – Medical Assessment 1.2
2015-04-28	Underway Replenishment with USNS HENRY J. KAISER
2015-05-01 – 2015-05-25	In Port, Naval Base San Diego Continuous Maintenance Availability 5A1
2015-05-04 – 2015-05-29	Readiness Exercise 5
2015-05-04 – 2015-05-15	Total Ship Readiness Assessment IV
2015-05-04 – 2015-05-08	Mobility – Damage Control Assessment 1.2 Communications Assessment 1.1 Passive Countermeasure System Readiness Improvement Program

2015-05-06	Supply Assessment 1.1 Remediation
2015-05-11 – 2015-05-15	Mobility – Seamanship Assessment 1.3 Mobility – Engineering Assessment 1.2 Supply Assessment 1.2 Explosive Safety Assessment 1.1/1.2
2015-05-14 – 2015-05-15	Air Warfare Assessment 1.2/1.3
2015-05-18 – 2015-05-22	Mobility – Damage Control Assessment 1.3 Communications Assessment 1.2
2015-05-22 – 2015-06-12	Midshipmen Support Phase 1
2015-05-26 – 2015-05-29	Underway Southern California Operating Area
2015-05-26 – 2015-05-28	Type Commander Sea Trials
2015-05-26	Mobility – Seamanship 1.3 Remediation
2015-05-27	Underway Replenishment with USNS YUKON
2015-05-29	Change of Command
2015-05-30 – 2015-06-14	In Port Naval Base San Diego
2015-06-01 – 2015-06-05	Supply Assessment 1.3 Maintenance and Material Management Assessment 1.1/1.2 Command, Control, Communications, Computers, Collaboration, and Intelligence Systems Operability Test
2015-06-01	Aviation Certification Intelligence Warfare Assessment 2.1
2015-06-02	Mobility – Navigation Assessment 1.1 Remediation Air Warfare Assessment 1.3 Remediation
2015-06-08 – 2015-06-12	Mobility – Damage Control Assessment 1.3 Air Warfare/Surface Warfare Assessment 2.1 Ballistic Missile Defense Assessment 2.1A Electronic Warfare Assessment 2.1 Mobility – Navigation Assessment 1.2
2015-06-12	Air Warfare Assessment 1.4A
2015-06-13 – 2015-07-17	Midshipman Support Phase 2

2015-06-15 – 2015-06-26	Underway Southern California Operating Area
2015-06-15 – 2015-06-19	Mobility – Engineering Limited Team Training Fleet Support Operations – Medical Assessment 1.3 Mobility – Navigation 1.3
2015-06-16	Ammunition Onload
2015-06-19 – 2015-06-20	Deck Landing Qualifications
2015-06-19	Air Warfare Assessment 1.4B
2015-06-20	Moor to a Buoy Rehearsal
2015-06-22 – 2015-06-25	Mobility – Engineering Assessment 1.3 Communications Assessment 1.3 Mobility – Seamanship Certification 1.4
2015-06-22	Mobility – Navigation Assessment 1.4A Moor to a Buoy Towing Exercise
2015-06-25	Underway Replenishment with USNS HENRY J. KAISER
2015-06-27 – 2015-07-05	In Port Naval Base San Diego
2015-06-29 – 2015-07-02	Supply Certification 1.4 Electronic Warfare Assessment 2.2A Engineering Readiness Assist Team
2015-07-06 – 2015-07-10	Underway Southern California Operating Area Communications Certification 1.4 Mobility – Engineering Assessment 1.3 Fleet Support Operations – Medical Certification 1.4
2015-07-10	Mobility – Navigation Certification 1.4B
2015-07-11 – 2015-07-19	In Port Naval Base San Diego
2015-07-13 – 2015-07-17	Mobility – Damage Control Limited Training Team Strike Warfare Assessment 2.1A Explosive Safety Assessment 1.3 Electronic Warfare Assessment 2.2B Cryptologic Warfare Assessment 2.1
2015-07-17	Command Picnic

2015-07-18 – 2015-08-10	Midshipman Support Phase 3
2015-07-20 – 2015-07-24	Underway Southern California Operating Area Mobility – Engineering Assessment 1.3 Scientists to Sea
2015-07-25 – 2015-07-29	In Port Naval Base San Diego
2015-07-27 – 2015-08-21	Readiness Evaluation 6
2015-07-27 - 2015-07-28	Undersea Warfare Assessment 2.0
2015-07-29 – 2015-07-30	Mobility – Engineering Assessment 1.4
2015-07-30 – 2015-07-31	Underway Southern California Operating Area
2015-07-31	Fleet Support Operations – Medical Certification 1.4 Remediation
2015-07-31 – 2015-08-20	Continuous Maintenance Availability 5A2
2015-08-01 – 2015-08-20	In Port Naval Base San Diego
2015-08-03 – 2015-08-14	Ship’s Reaction Force – Basic Class 15-02
2015-08-03 – 2015-08-07	Air Warfare/Surface Warfare Assessment 2.1B Ballistic Missile Defense Assessment 2.1B Limpet Dive Operations
2015-08-10 – 2015-08-14	Undersea Warfare Assessment 2.1 Strike Warfare Assessment 2.2 Intelligence Warfare Assessment 2.2 Cryptologic Warfare Assessment 2.2A Limpet Dive Operations
2015-08-17 – 2015-08-21	Air Warfare/Surface Warfare Assessment 2.2 Ballistic Missile Defense Assessment 2.2 Aegis Weapons Training Phase II
2015-08-21 – 2015-08-24	Underway Southern California Operating Area
2015-08-22	Deck Landing Qualifications
2015-08-24 – 2015-08-27	Strike Warfare Assessment 2.3A
2015-08-24 – 2015-08-28	Mobility – Damage Control Certification 1.4 Cryptologic Warfare Assessment 2.2B

2015-08-25 – 2015-10-01	In Port Naval Base San Diego Mess Deck and Wardroom Renovation
2015-08-31 – 2015-09-04	Air Warfare/Surface Warfare Assessment 2.3 Electronic Warfare/Cryptologic Warfare Assessment 2.3 Intelligence Warfare Assessment 2.3 Strike Warfare 2.4A
2015-09-08 – 2015-09-18	Ship's Reaction Force – Basic Class 15-03
2015-09-08 – 2015-09-11	Mobility – Engineering Limited Team Training
2015-09-09 – 2015-09-11	Explosive Safety Assessment 1.4
2015-09-10 – 2015-09-11	Visit, Board, Search, and Seizure Assessment 2.1
2015-09-14 – 2015-09-18	Ballistic Missile Defense Limited Team Training Ballistic Missile Defense Exercise 15-12
2015-09-14 – 2015-09-15	Undersea Warfare Limited Team Training, Assessment 2.3
2015-09-17 – 2015-09-18	Maintenance and Material Management Assessment 1.3
2015-09-21 – 2015-09-25	Undersea Warfare Assessment 2.2 Strike Warfare Assessment 2.3B Mobility – Engineering 1.3 Remediation
2015-09-23 – 2015-09-25	Visit, Board, Search, and Seizure Assessment 2.2
2015-09-28 – 2015-10-01	Undersea Warfare Assessment 2.2A Visit, Board, Search, and Seizure Assessment 2.3
2015-10-01 – 2015-10-02	Mobility – Engineering 1.4 Remediation
2015-10-02 – 2015-10-05	Underway Southern California Operating Area
2015-10-03	Deck Landing Qualifications
2015-10-04	Air Warfare Detect to Engage
2015-10-05 – 2015-10-09	Ballistic Missile Defense Assessment 2.3 Aegis Weapons Training Phase III
2015-10-06 – 2015-10-12	In Port Naval Base San Diego
2015-10-06	Ammunition Onload

2015-10-13 – 2015-10-16	Underway Southern California Operating Area Air Warfare/Surface Warfare Assessment 2.4A Electronic Warfare Assessment 2.4A
2015-10-17 – 2015-11-01	In Port Naval Base San Diego
2015-10-19 – 2015-10-23	Ballistic Missile Defense Exercise 16-01 Ballistic Missile Defense Certification 2.4
2015-10-26 – 2015-10-30	Fleet Synthetic Training – Unit Exercise Air Warfare/Surface Warfare Certification 2.4B Intelligence Warfare Certification 2.4 Electronic Warfare Certification 2.4 Cryptologic Warfare Certification 2.4 Engineering Readiness Assist Team
2015-11-02 – 2015-11-13	Underway Southern California Operating Area
2015-11-02 – 2015-11-06	Undersea Warfare Assessment 2.3 Strike Warfare Assessment 2.3B
2015-11-09 - 2015-11-13	Mobility – Engineering Assessment 1.3 Remediation
2015-11-14 – 2015-11-15	In Port Naval Base San Diego
2015-11-16 – 2015-11-20	Underway Southern California Operating Area Mobility – Engineering Limited Team Training
2015-11-19	Deck Landing Qualifications
2015-11-21 – 2015-11-23	In Port Naval Base San Diego
2015-11-23 – 2015-11-24	Mobility – Engineering Certification 1.4
2015-11-24 – 2015-11-25	Underway Southern California Operating Area
2015-11-26 – 2015-11-29	In Port Naval Base San Diego
2015-11-30 – 2015-12-04	Underway Southern California Operating Area
2015-11-30	Strike Warfare Certification 2.4B
2015-12-02	Underway Replenishment with USNS HENRY J. KAISER
2015-12-03 – 2015-12-04	Undersea Warfare Certification 2.4

2015-12-07 – 2015-12-11	Ballistic Missile Defense Exercise 16-03 Visit, Board, Search, and Seizure Assessment 2.3/2.4
2015-12-10 – 2015-12-18	Type Commander Selective Restricted Availability V Ballistic Missile Defense Readiness Assessment
2015-12-14 – 2016-01-08	Continuous Maintenance Availability 6A1
2015-12-18 – 2016-01-07	Holiday Leave Period

Narrative

DECATUR began 2015 in BAE Systems Shipyards, San Diego California, for a Drydocking Selective Restrictive Availability Period that began in July of 2014. She received extensive upgrades to her Combat Systems Suite, including a Ballistic Missile Defense baseline upgrade to 4.0 and installation of a new shipboard network system, the Consolidated Afloat Network Enterprise System. She received numerous repairs to her engineering plant including complete removal and refurbishment of both port and starboard shafts while in the drydock. Her crew worked tirelessly alongside civilian contractors to ensure completeness of repairs and installations and the maintenance of water-tight integrity ultimately culminating in a successful deadstick transit returning her to Naval Base San Diego in February.

DECATUR's Basic Phase began in earnest in February and the crew began a trend of consistently surpassing the warfare certification standards of the Afloat Training Group. DECATUR's first preliminary certification event was a successful Anti-Terrorism Force Protection Assessment 1.1 in early February. She completed her Anti-Terrorism Force Protection Certification and passed her Engineering Light-Off Assessment in April. The crew was certified for operations underway on 15 April, successful Dock Trials were conducted on 22 April, and the crew demonstrated their readiness for underway operations with a Fast Cruise April 23-24. On 27 April DECATUR returned to sea after 304 days in port for Contractor Sea Trials and the crew's Navigation Check Ride.

In May, DECATUR completed Type Commander Sea Trials and CDR G. H. Miller took command. Fourteen Midshipmen were embarked for a summer training cruise and DECATUR continued to execute Basic Phase assessment events, earning her Mobility – Seamanship certification while underway in June. Additionally, she unloaded ammunition at Bravo Pier,

Naval Base San Diego, moored to a buoy, conducted a towing exercise with USS CORONADO (LCS 4), and exchanged her first Midshipmen group for 11 new trainees.

In July, DECATUR earned her Supply, Communications, Fleet Support Operations – Medical and Mobility – Navigation Certifications. Her crew conducted a Command Picnic, said farewell to the second round of Midshipmen, and welcomed 12 more. In August the focus shifted to more advanced qualifications for DECATUR in her Integrated Phase, as well as the completion of her Damage Control Certification. DECATUR entered into a maintenance period that allowed for significant renovation of the wardroom and galley spaces. The ship conducted Aegis Weapons Training and limited team training events with the Afloat Training Group for Engineering, Ballistic Missile Defense, and Undersea Warfare, increasing the crew's proficiency in each area as they pursued certification into the month of September. By the end of October, DECATUR was certified in her primary warfare area, Ballistic Missile Defense, as well as Air and Surface Warfare.

DECATUR closed out the year with hard won Engineering, Undersea Warfare, and Visit, Board, Search, and Seizure certifications. She received the Command, Control, Communications, and Information Excellence Award and the Logistics Management Excellence Award for calendar year 2015. Finally, the crew enjoyed a period of Holiday Leave to rest and rejuvenate prior to the final push for full certification and the coming spring's 7th Fleet deployment.

4. Supporting Reports (Refer to specific guide for Ship/Shore/Aviation or Fleet Command)

The following Afloat Training Group end of mission reports (EOM), Commander Naval Surface Forces Pacific certification messages (Cert.msg) and Commander Naval Surface Forces Battle Effectiveness Award message were submitted detailing DECATUR's performance during 1.4 and 2.4 Certification Events referenced in the Command Chronology:

1. CY15 AT EOM.pdf
2. CY15 AW EOM.pdf
3. CY15 Battle E.msg
4. CY15 BMD Cert.msg
5. CY15 COMMS Cert.msg
6. CY15 EW EOM.pdf
7. CY15 FSO-M Cert.msg
8. CY15 MOB-D Cert.msg
9. CY15 MOB-D EOM.pdf
10. CY15 MOB-E Cert.msg
11. CY15 MOB-N Cert.msg

12. CY15 MOB-S Cert.msg
 13. CY15 MOB-S EOM.pdf
 14. CY15 SUP Cert.msg
 15. CY15 SW EOM.pdf
 16. CY15 VBSS Cert.msg
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5. Published Documents

1. CY15 DDG73 CO Bio.doc
 2. CY15 DDG73 XO Bio.doc
 3. CY15 DDG73 CMC Bio.doc
 4. CY15 DDG73 COC 2015 Program.pub – Program from 2015 Change of Command Ceremony
 5. CY15 DDG73 PCS and TDY Handbook.pdf – USS DECATUR transfer and welcome guide for incoming personnel.
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6. Photographs

1. CY15 DDG73 CO Photo.jpg
 2. CY15 DDG73 XO Photo.png
 3. CY15 DDG73 CMC Photo.jpg
 4. CY15 DDG73 DECATUR Photo.jpg
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