



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

USS DEVASTATOR (MCM-6)  
FPO AA 34090-1026

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From: Commanding Officer, USS DEVASTATOR (MCM-6)  
To: Director of Naval History (OP-09BH)

Subj: DEVASTATOR'S COMMAND HISTORY

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12E - "Command Histories"

Encl: (1) DEVASTATOR's Command History for the Period 1 January 1992  
to 31 December 1992

1. As directed by reference (a), enclosure (1) is submitted.
2. Enclosure (1) includes the Command Composition and Organization, Chronology, and Narrative; however, there are no Supporting Documents for submission with 1992's Command History.
3. Because of the crew turnover that occurred in late 1991, it is difficult to ascertain whether a Command History was submitted for 1990 or 1991. If you have not received those two years from this unit, please notify me soonest and I will reconstruct that information while it is still somewhat recent.
4. If there is any other material you desire from DEVASTATOR, let me know and I will see it is forwarded.

  
T. J. STREI

## USS DEVASTATOR (MCM-6) COMMAND COMPOSITION AND ORGANIZATION

The mission of USS DEVASTATOR is to locate, classify, and neutralize mines. This is accomplished using the AN/SQQ-30 Minehunting Sonar in conjunction with the AN/SLQ-48 Mine Neutralization System. DEVASTATOR also has influence and mechanical minesweeping capabilities to supplement its mission. This is accomplished using size "0" Oropesa mechanical sweep gear, size "3" Magnetic Cable, and the A Mk 4(V) and A Mk 6(B) Acoustic Devices.

The USS DEVASTATOR reports directly to Commander, Mine Countermeasures Group Two (COMCMGRU TWO) in Ingleside, TX. The chain of command progresses to Commander, Mine Warfare Command (COMINEWARCOM) located in Charleston, SC and Commander in Chief, Atlantic Fleet (CINCLANTFLT) located in Norfolk, VA, ultimately terminating with the Chief of Naval Operations (CNO).

The Commanding Officer of USS DEVASTATOR is LCDR John P. Wallace who has been in command since 4 December 1991. The homeport was shifted from Newport, RI to Ingleside, TX on 1 November 1992 where Mine Warfare will become centralized in the near future.

USS DEVASTATOR (MCM-6) 1992 COMMAND HISTORY

01 JAN - 05 JAN                    INPORT NEWPORT, RI

06 JAN - 17 APR                    RAV NEWPORT, RI  
                                  -COMMAND INSPECTION  
                                  -GAGE CAL RECERTIFICATION  
                                  -OPPE PREPS

28 FEB                              -FAST CRUISE  
                                  -SIMA NEWPORT, RI IMAV  
                                  -ISA ASSIST VISIT

20 MAR                              -FAST CRUISE

27 MAR                              -FAST CRUISE

09 APR                              -DOCK TRIALS

10 APR                              -SEA TRIALS

14 APR                              -FAST CRUISE  
                                  -DOCK TRIALS  
                                  -DERAT CERTIFICATION

15 APR                              -SEA TRIALS

18 APR - 19 APR                    INPORT NEWPORT, RI

20 APR - 23 APR                    UNDERWAY NARRAGANSETT BAY OPAREA  
                                  -MINEHUNTING OPERATIONS  
                                  -BECCES  
                                  -SONAR OPERATIONAL TESTS  
                                  -CONDUCTED SEARCH FOR SUBMARINE ANCHOR  
                                  OFF OF LONG ISLAND SOUND

24 APR                              INPORT NEWPORT, RI

25 APR - 26 APR                    ENROUTE EARLE, NJ

27 APR - 01 MAY                    INPORT EARLE, NJ  
                                  -FIREFIGHTING TRAINING  
                                  -NAVSHIPYARD PHILA. DC PLATE  
                                  VERIFICATION

02 MAY                              ENROUTE LITTLE CREEK, VA

03 MAY - 06 MAY                    INPORT LITTLE CREEK, VA  
                                  -DMAT  
                                  -SLQ-48 TRAINING

07 MAY                              UNDERWAY NORVA OPAREA  
                                  -DMAT

USS DEVASTATOR 1992 COMMAND HISTORY (CONT.)

08 MAY INPORT LITTLE CREEK, VA

09 MAY - 10 MAY ENROUTE CHARLESTON, SC

11 MAY INPORT CHARLESTON, SC

12 MAY UNDERWAY CHARLESTON, SC OPAREA  
-SQQ-30/SLQ-48 DEMONSTRATIONS  
FOR CO EOD GROUP 2

13 MAY - 15 MAY INPORT CHARLESTON, SC  
-OPPE PREPS  
-ERAT

16 MAY - 17 MAY ENROUTE EAST FLORIDA COAST  
-MINE NEUTRALIZATION VEHICLE OPERATIONS

18 MAY - 19 MAY ENROUTE MAYPORT, FL

20 MAY BRIEF STOP FOR FUEL MAYPORT, FL

21 MAY - 26 MAY INPORT CHARLESTON, SC  
-OPPE PREPS  
-ERAT  
-FAST CRUISE

27 MAY - 28 MAY ENROUTE LITTLE CREEK, VA  
-ERAT

29 MAY - 02 JUN INPORT LITTLE CREEK, VA  
-OPPE PREPS  
-DMTT VISIT  
-FAST CRUISE

03 JUN ENROUTE ALEXANDRIA, VA

04 JUN - 07 JUN WATER FRONT FESTIVAL, ALEXANDRIA, VA  
-SHIPBOARD TOURS  
-VIP VISITS

08 JUN ENROUTE LITTLE CREEK, VA

09 JUN - 10 JUN INPORT LITTLE CREEK, VA

11 JUN UNDERWAY NORVA OPAREA  
-DMAT

12 JUN - 14 JUN ENROUTE CHARLESTON, SC

15 JUN - 17 JUN INPORT CHARLESTON, SC  
-OPPE PREPS

USS DEVASTATOR 1992 COMMAND HISTORY (CONT.)

18 JUN - 19 JUN UNDERWAY CHARLESTON, SC OPAREA

20 JUN - 22 JUN INPORT CHARLESTON, SC  
-OPPE PREPS  
-FAST CRUISE

23 JUN - 25 JUN INPORT/UNDERWAY CHAS., SC OPAREA  
-OPPE

26 JUN - 27 JUN ENROUTE NEWPORT, RI  
-ISA PREPS

28 JUN - 05 JUL INPORT NEWPORT, RI  
-INTEGRATED SUPPORT ASSESSMENT  
-POST SHAKEDOWN AVAILABILITY PREPS

06 JUL - 06 OCT POST SHAKEDOWN AVAILABILITY  
(AMERICAN SHIPYARD, NEWPORT, RI)  
DRYDOCKING  
-DRYDOCKING WORK COMPLETED

28 SEP -SEA TRIALS

30 SEP -FAST CRUISE

06 OCT - 07 OCT ENROUTE LITTLE CREEK, VA

08 OCT INPORT LITTLE CREEK, VA

09 OCT - 12 OCT ENROUTE CHARLESTON, SC

13 OCT - 02 NOV INPORT CHARLESTON, SC  
-ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE NAVY VISIT  
-DEGAUSSING  
-MCMGRU 2 SAFETY ASSIST VISIT

03 NOV - 05 NOV ENROUTE KEY WEST, FL

06 NOV - 08 NOV INPORT KEY WEST, FL

09 NOV - 12 NOV ENROUTE NEW HOMEPORT: INGLESIDE, TX

13 NOV - 29 NOV INPORT INGLESIDE, TX  
-HOMEPORT SHIFT STANDDOWN

30 NOV - 04 DEC UNDERWAY INGLESIDE OPAREA  
-MRCI PREPS

05 DEC - 06 DEC INPORT INGLESIDE, TX

07 DEC - 11 DEC UNDERWAY INGLESIDE OPAREA  
-MRCI PREPS

USS DEVASTATOR 1992 COMMAND HISTORY (CONT.)

12 DEC - 31 DEC

INPORT INGLESIDE, TX

- IMAV SIMA INGLESIDE, TX
- DIESEL INSPECTION (PHASE 1)
- HOLIDAY LEAVE AND UPKEEP

ABBREVIATIONS:

- IMAV - Intermediate Maintenance Availability
- ISA - Integrated Support Assessment
- MRCI - Mine Readiness Certification and Inspection
- OPPE - Operational Propulsion Plant Examination

## USS DEVASTATOR (MCM-6) 1992 COMMAND HISTORY

USS DEVASTATOR began 1992 with a relatively new crew and Commanding Officer. Due to a crew change between the Persian Gulf deployed unit, USS GUARDIAN (MCM-5) and USS DEVASTATOR in October 1991, the old GUARDIAN crew which had spent six months in the Gulf now called MCM-6 home. On 4 December 1991, CDR George Smith was relieved by LCDR John Wallace. DEVASTATOR immediately started the new year with a Restricted Availability (RAV) in Newport, RI. This availability lasted for approximately three months until early April. The engineering plant was improved during this period and Operational Propulsion Plant Examination (OPPE) preparations began.

Upon completion of the RAV, DEVASTATOR got underway in April to conduct minehunting operations and OPPE preps. The ship was tasked to conduct a search for a lost submarine anchor off the coast of Long Island which later had to be called off due to lack of adequate time. In late April, DEVASTATOR commenced a two month departure from homeport to concentrate on preparing for the upcoming OPPE. Firefighting training was completed and many assessment teams came onboard to assist in the engineering readiness of the ship during port visits to Earle, NJ and Little Creek, VA. DEVASTATOR continued travelling south to Charleston, SC where more engineering training teams assisted in OPPE preps.

In the midst of the "OPPE Cruise", DEVASTATOR was tasked to recover an exercise mine off the coast of Florida. This mission proved to be a valuable training exercise in mine hunting and Mine Neutralization Vehicle operations. Efforts to recover the exercise mine were hindered by heavy weather and equipment limitations. Mine Neutralization Vehicle operations were conducted at depths greater than 700 feet during the three missions that were flown on the contact.

Efforts became focused on OPPE preparations once again when DEVASTATOR returned to Charleston, SC and later Little Creek, VA. A port visit to Alexandria, VA was made as well to break up the demanding operational schedule. This port call proved to be a worthwhile trip due to the Water Front Festival and the large number of people who came to visit DEVASTATOR. Over 3500 people, including many dignitaries from the Washington D.C. area, visited sometime during that long weekend.

Finally during the last week in June, DEVASTATOR successfully passed OPPE, receiving an overall grade of "GOOD". The ship was well prepared and received excellent results in all areas to achieve a two year certification. Once the examination was over, DEVASTATOR headed back to Newport, RI to undergo an Integrated Support Assessment and prepare for the upcoming Post Shakedown Availability. Even though this was the first ship of its class to receive the Integrated Support Assessment, the preparation by the Officers and crew guaranteed its successful completion, receiving an overall grade of "Outstanding". On 06 July, USS DEVASTATOR was drydocked at American Shipyard to commence a three month availability. During this timeframe, plans to facilitate a homeport shift were made in anticipation of moving to Ingleside, TX.

After a successful undocking two weeks prior to the scheduled completion date, DEVASTATOR finished sea trials and left Newport, RI bound for its new homeport of Ingleside, TX. Enroute to Ingleside, port stops were made in Little Creek, VA and Charleston, SC. During a two week stay in Charleston, SC the ship went through degaussing and achieved the lowest magnetic signature ever from any MCM or MSO. The ship made a brief stop for fuel in Key West, FL and arrived at Naval Station Ingleside on 13 November. Upon arrival, the crew completed the homeport shift smoothly and began preps for the upcoming Mine Readiness and Certification Inspection. The USS DEVASTATOR finished out calendar year 1992 with a Christmas holiday leave and upkeep period.