



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

USS DEVASTATOR (MCM-6)
FPO AA 34090-1926

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From: Commanding Officer, USS Devastator (MCM 6)
To: Chief of Naval Operations (N09BH), 2000 Navy Pentagon,
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Subj: COMMAND HISTORY FOR 1997

Ref: (a) CNO ltr 5757 Ser 09BH/SH/8U506019 of 30 Sep 98

Encl: (1) DEVASTATOR's Command History for 1997

1. Enclosure (1) is forwarded, as requested by reference (a).


T. A. FLISK

USS DEVASTATOR (MCM 6) COMMAND HISTORY 1997

Command Composition and Organization:

Mission: To conduct minehunting and minesweeping operations against moored and bottom mines of contact, magnetic, acoustic and combination influence varieties.

Immediate Senior in Command: Commander Mine Countermeasures Squadron Two

Name of Commanding Officers: LCDR Brian T. Donegan
01Jan97-31Dec97

Permanent Duty Station: Ingleside, TX

01JAN97-05JAN97	Inport Naval Station Ingleside, TX. Holiday standdown.
06JAN97-09JAN97	Inport Naval Station Ingleside, TX. TSTA III - DASMN conducted.
10JAN97-19JAN97	Inport Naval Station Ingleside, TX. IMA availability.
20JAN97-21JAN97	Underway Corpus Christi OPAREA. Conducted FEP.
22JAN97-26JAN97	Underway Corpus Christi OPAREA. GOMEX 97-1.
27JAN97-28JAN97	Inport Naval Station Ingleside, TX. Completed SESI/magazine sprinkler inspection/MRI.
28JAN97-20FEB97	Inport Naval Station Ingleside, TX. POM period.
21FEB97-25FEB97	Underway EURO 97 deployment. Enroute BSF Keywest, FL.
25FEB97-27FEB97	Enroute NWS Charleston, SC.
28FEB97-04MAR97	Inport NWS Charleston, SC. Completed magnetic material offload and Magnetic Signature measurement.
05MAR97-06MAR97	Inport Charleston, SC. Completed Degaussing Range runs.
07MAR97-08MAR97	Enroute Naval Station Mayport, FL.
08MAR97-12MAR97	Inport Naval Station Mayport, FL. IMA availability.
13MAR97-17MAR97	Enroute BSF Bermuda.
18MAR97-04APR97	Enroute Portsmouth, UK.
05APR97-14MAY97	Inport Portsmouth, UK. Completed repairs to 2A, 2B Main Propulsion Diesels.
15MAY97-19MAY97	Enroute BSF Ponta de Leixoes, Portugal.
19MAY97-23MAY97	Enroute BSF Cartagena, Spain.

23MAY-26MAY97	Enroute La Spezia, Italy.
27MAY-28MAY97	Inport La Spezia, Italy. Conducted PVST.
29MAY-31MAY97	Enroute Palma de Mallorca, Spain
01JUN97-02JUN97	Inport Palma de Mallorca, Spain. Conducted PVST.
03JUN97-09JUN97	Underway for EXERCISE ALCUDRA 97. Major casualty to port CPP, major oil leak MMR, General Quarters.
11JUN97-17JUN97	Inport Palma de Mallorca, Spain. Completed repairs to port CPP, dock trials and sea trials.
18JUN97-14JUL97	Enroute Naval Station Ingleside, TX. Rendezvoused with USS INCHON Task Group, astern refueled and conducted photoex.
15JUL97-24SEP97	Inport Naval Station Ingleside, TX. Post deployment standdown, IMA availability.
25SEP97-26SEP97	Underway Corpus Christi OPAREA. Completed sea trials.
27SEP97-29SEP97	Inport Naval Station Ingleside, TX. Upkeep.
30SEP97-02OCT97	Underway Corpus Christi OPAREA. Conducted MRCI for EODMU 11 Det 53.
08OCT97-14OCT97	Inport Naval Station Ingleside, TX. Maintenance upkeep.
15OCT97-17OCT97	Underway Corpus Christi OPAREA.
18OCT97-19OCT97	Inport Naval Station Ingleside, TX. Maintenance Upkeep
20OCT97-31DEC97	Inport Naval Station Ingleside, TX. PMA.

NARRATIVE

USS DEVASTATOR (MCM 6) began the New Year returning from holiday leave and remaining inport, at Naval Station Ingleside, Texas. On the 6th DEVASTATOR continued the notional training cycle with TSTA DASMN in the Corpus Christi OPAREA. The next two weeks were spent inport for an IMA availability. The end of the notional training cycle was reached with the Final Evaluation Problem from 20-21 January. The end of January was spent underway in the Corpus OPAREA for GOMEX 97-1 and a short inport period where SESI, Magazine Sprinkler Inspection were conducted. DEVASTATOR then began her POM period.

Completing POM on 20 February, DEVASTATOR departed on deployment EURO 97 the next day. After stopping for a BSF in Keywest, FL, several days were spent in NWS Charleston, SC conducting a magnetic material off-load, Magnetic Signature measurement and numerous degaussing runs. Departing Charleston DEVASTATOR made a week long stop in Naval Station Mayport FL for an IMA. The second week in March found the ship in company with three other MCM's and a MHC bound for a BSF in Bermuda. The remainder of the Atlantic transit was made with USS INCHON (MCS 12) and our consorts. Approximately every three days the MIW ships formed up and conducted astern refueling with INCHON. In the midst of this transit the port Main Propulsion Diesels suffered a catastrophic failure and DEVASTATOR was left with only her starboard shaft. Reaching Portsmouth, UK on 5 April the Engineering department set to work to complete what ultimately amounted to depot level repairs of 2A and 2B Main Engines.

Finally departing England on 15 May DEVASTATOR made her way to the Mediterranean to rejoin the MCM task group. Arriving in Palma, Spain on the 1st of June via BSFs in Ponta de Leixoes, Portugal, Cartagena, Spain and La Spezia, Italy the Crew immediately began preparations for Exercise ALCUDRA 97. After participating in ALCUDRA for a week DEVASTATOR suffered another major engineering casualty to the port shaft when on 10 June the Oil Distribution box for the shaft seized and was torn off of it's mount by the shaft rotation. The crew responded superbly with both proper engineering casualty control and damage control procedures. After a week of Herculean efforts inport Palma the engineers were again ready to answer all bells and DEVASTATOR left the Med to rendezvous with her task group to begin the long trip home.

Returning to Naval Station Ingleside on 15 July 1997 DEVASTATOR and her crew began a well-earned post-deployment standdown. Repairs to the port shaft were ongoing and required sea trials after the standdown in September. Late in September DEVASTATOR was underway in the Corpus Christi OPAREA supporting EODMU 11 Det 53. The remainder of 1997 was spent inport Naval Station Corpus Christi preparing for and conducting a major Planned Maintenance Period where DEVASTATOR received the AN/SQQ-32 sonar and the Integrated Ship Control System (ISCS). We also conducted Command Career Counselor and Equal Opportunity assessments.