



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

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

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

Subj: COMMAND HISTORY

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12E

Encl: (1) USS DEVASTATOR (MCM 6) Command History

1. Per reference (a), enclosure (1) is forwarded.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "T. A. Flisk".

T. A. Flisk

USS DEVASTATOR (MCM 6) COMMAND HISTORY

Command Composition and Organization:

Mission: To conduct mine hunting and mine sweeping operations against moored and bottom mines of contact, magnetic influence, and acoustic influence and combination influence varieties.

Immediate Senior Command: Commander Mine Warfare Command
Corpus Christi, Texas

Name of Commanding Officer: LCDR Brian T. Donegan
01 Jan 98-18 Jun 98
LCDR Thomas A. Flisk
18 Jun 98-31 Dec 98

Permanent Duty Station: Ingleside, TX

01JAN98-05JAN98	Inport Naval Station Ingleside, TX.	Holiday Leave and Upkeep.
06JAN98-06JAN98	Inport Naval Station Ingleside, TX.	CMS Inspection, Holiday Leave and Upkeep.
05JAN98-17FEB98	Inport Naval Station Ingleside, TX.	Pre-Avail, RAV.
17FEB98-17FEB98	Underway Transit to Gulf Copper Dry Dock, Dry Docked Gulf Copper, Aransas Pass, TX.	
18FEB98-22FEB98	Gulf Copper Dry Dock Aransas Pass, TX.	Test Equipment Calibration Readiness Assessment, DPMA.
23FEB98-27FEB98	Gulf Copper Dry Dock Aransas Pass, TX.	Plot II, DPMA.
28FEB98-15MAR98	Gulf Copper Dry Dock Aransas Pass, TX.	DPMA.
16MAR98-22MAR98	Gulf Copper Dry Dock Aransas Pass, TX.	Snapshot Tank Inspection-AIT, DPMA.
23MAR98-16APR98	Gulf Copper Dry Dock Aransas Pass, TX.	DPMA.
17APR98-17APR98	Undock Gulf Copper Dry Dock Aransas Pass, TX.	
18APR98-19APR98	Underway transit to Naval Station Ingleside, TX.	
18APR98-19APR98	Inport Naval Station Ingleside, TX.	LOA Preps, DPMA.
20ARP98-24APR98	Inport Naval Station Ingleside, TX.	Diesel Inspection, LOA Preps, DPMA.
25APR98-26APR98	Inport Naval Station Ingleside, TX.	LOA Preps, DPMA.
27APR98-01MAY98	Inport Naval Station Ingleside, TX.	Plot III, LOA Preps, DPMA.
02MAY98-03MAY98	Inport Naval Station Ingleside, TX.	LOA Preps, DPMA.
04MAY98-08MAY98	Inport Naval Station Ingleside, TX.	PEB LOA, DPMA.
09MAY98-10MAY98	Inport Naval Station Ingleside, TX.	DPMA.
11MAY98-21MAY98	Inport Naval Station Ingleside, TX.	Dock Trials, E-CERT Preps, DPMA.
22MAY98-22MAY98	Inport Naval Station Ingleside, TX.	NAVCERT Admin, E-CERT Preps, DPMA.
23MAY98-25MAY98	Inport Naval Station Ingleside, TX.	E-CERT Preps, DPMA.
26MAY98-26MAY98	Inport Naval Station Ingleside, TX.	E-CERT Preps, Dock Trials, DPMA.
27MAY98-28MAY98	Inport Naval Station Ingleside, TX.	E-CERT Preps, Dock Trials, ADP Inspection, DPMA.
29MAY98-29MAY98	Inport Naval Station Ingleside, TX.	E-CERT Preps, Dock Trials, DPMA.
30MAY98-14JUN98	Inport Naval Station Ingleside, TX.	E-CERT Preps,

15JUN98-17JUN98 Dock Trials, DPMA, Prep for Change of Command.
 Underway Corpus Christi OPAREA. Sea Trials, E-CERT
 Preps, DPMA, Prep for Change of Command.

18JUN98-18JUN98 Underway Corpus Christi OPAREA. Change of Command
 Sea Trials E-CERT Preps, DPMA.
 DPMA.

19JUN98-19JUN98 Underway Corpus Christi OPAREA. Sea Trials E-CERT
 Preps, DPMA.

20JUN98-20JUN98 Inport Naval Station Ingleside, TX. CNO End date for
 DPMA.

21JUN98-21JUN98 Inport Naval Station Ingleside, TX. E-CERT Preps.

22JUN98-22JUN98 Inport Naval Station Ingleside, TX. Pre-Cart
 Assessment (HORSE), E-CERT Preps (ATG).

23JUN98-23JUN98 Inport Naval Station Ingleside, TX. NATO Secret
 Inspection, Pre-Cart Assessment (HORSE), E-CERT
 Preps.

24JUN98-26JUN98 Inport Naval Station Ingleside, TX. Pre-Cart
 Assessment (HORSE), E-CERT Preps.

27JUN98-29JUN98 Inport Naval Station Ingleside, TX. E-CERT Preps,
 CART II Preps.

30JUN98-30JUN98 Underway Corpus Christi OPAREA. E-CERT Preps (ATG),
 CART II Preps.

01JUL98-05JUL98 Inport Naval Station Ingleside, TX. E-CERT Preps
 (ATG), CART II Preps.

06JUL98-10JUL98 Inport Naval Station Ingleside, TX. CART II (ATG).

11JUL98-12JUL98 Inport Naval Station Ingleside, TX. TSTA I Preps,
 DASMN Preps.

13JUL98-14JUL98 Inport Naval Station Ingleside, TX. TSTA I ETG
 Inport (ATG).

15JUL98-17JUL98 Underway Corpus Christi OPAREA. TSTA I ETG Underway
 (ATG).

18JUL98-21JUL98 Inport Naval Station Ingleside, TX. TSTA I DASMN
 Preps.

22JUL98-24JUL98 Inport Naval Station Ingleside, TX. TSTA I DASMN
 (ATG).

25JUL98-26JUL98 Inport Naval Station Ingleside, TX. TSTA II ETG
 Preps.

27JUL98-27JUL98 Inport Naval Station Ingleside, TX. TSTA II ETG
 (ATG).

28JUL98-28JUL98 Underway Corpus Christi OPAREA. NAVCERT Underway.
 TSTA II ETG (ATG).

29JUL98-31JUL98 Inport Naval Station Ingleside, TX. TSTA II ETG
 (ATG).

01AUG98-05AUG98 Inport Naval Station Ingleside, TX. TSTA I MIW
 Preps.

06AUG98-07AUG98 Underway Corpus Christi OPAREA. TSTA I MIW Preps,
 Sonar VDS Operations.

08AUG98-09AUG98 Inport Naval Station Ingleside, TX. TSTA I MIW
 Preps, TSTA II DASMN Preps.

10AUG98-10AUG98 Inport Naval Station Ingleside, TX. Magazine
 Sprinkler Inspection. TSTA I MIW Preps, TSTA II
 DASMN Preps.

11AUG98-12AUG98 Inport Naval Station Ingleside, TX. TSTA I MIW
 Preps, TSTA II DASMN Preps.

13AUG98-13AUG98 Inport Naval Station Ingleside, TX. ECERT (PEB).

14AUG98-25AUG98 Inport Naval Station Ingleside, TX. TSTA I MIW
 Preps, TSTA II DASMN Preps.
 26AUG98-27AUG98 Underway Corpus Christi OPAREA. TSTA I MIW (ATG).
 28AUG98-02SEP98 Inport Naval Station Ingleside, TX. TSTA II DASMN
 Preps, Prep for upcoming RAV.
 03SEP98-04SEP98 Underway Corpus Christi OPAREA. TSTA II DASMN.
 05SEP98-16SEP98 Inport Naval Station Ingleside, TX. RAV, TSTA II MIW
 Preps.
 17SEP98-18SEP98 Inport Naval Station Ingleside, TX. CMS Assist
 Visit, RAV, TSTA II MIW Preps.
 19SEP98-21SEP98 Inport Naval Station Ingleside, TX. RAV, TSTA II MIW
 Preps.
 22SEP98-22SEP98 Underway Corpus Christi OPAREA. NAVCERT Inspection
 Underway, TSTA II MIW (ATG).
 23SEP98-25SEP98 Underway Corpus Christi OPAREA. TSTA II MIW (ATG).
 26SEP98-27SEP98 Inport Naval Station Ingleside, TX. TSTA IV MIW
 Preps.
 28SEP98-30SEP98 Underway Corpus Christi OPAREA. TSTA IV MIW (ATG).
 01OCT98-07OCT98 Inport Naval Station Ingleside, TX. TSTA IV MIW
 Preps.
 08OCT98-09OCT98 Underway Corpus Christi OPAREA. TSTA IV MIW (ATG).
 10OCT98-12OCT98 Inport Naval Station Ingleside, TX. TSTA IV MIW
 Preps.
 13OCT98-16OCT98 Underway Corpus Christi OPAREA. TSTA IV MIW (ATG).
 17OCT98-18OCT98 Inport Naval Station Ingleside, TX. TSTA IV MIW
 Preps.
 19OCT98-23OCT98 Underway Corpus Christi OPAREA. TSTA IV MIW (ATG).
 24OCT98-26OCT98 Inport Naval Station Ingleside, TX. Final Evaluation
 Problem Preps.
 27OCT98-29OCT98 Underway Corpus Christi OPAREA. FEP (ATG).
 30OCT98-08NOV98 Inport Naval Station Ingleside, TX. Squadron
 Exercise Preps.
 09NOV98-12NOV98 Underway Corpus Christi OPAREA. RONEX 98-1.
 13NOV98-22NOV98 Inport Naval Station Ingleside, TX. LMA Visit and
 GOMEX Preps.
 23NOV98-24NOV98 Inport Naval Station Ingleside, TX. LMA (ATG), GOMEX
 Preps.
 25NOV98-25NOV98 Inport Naval Station Ingleside, TX. Communications
 Readiness Certification, LMA (ATG).
 26NOV98-29NOV98 Inport Naval Station Ingleside, TX. GOMEX Preps.
 30NOV98-08NOV98 Inport Naval Station Ingleside, TX. Combat Systems
 Readiness Rectification, GOMEX Preps.
 09NOV98-09NOV98 Inport Naval Station Ingleside, TX. Shipboard
 Explosives Safety Inspection, Combat Systems
 Readiness Rectification, GOMEX Preps.
 10DEC98-10DEC98 Inport Naval Station Ingleside, TX. Combat Systems
 Readiness Rectification, GOMEX Preps.
 11DEC98-15DEC98 Inport Naval Station Ingleside, TX. GOMEX Preps.
 16DEC98-31DEC98 Inport Naval Station Ingleside, TX. Holiday Stand-
 Down and upkeep.

NARRATIVE

USS DEVASTATOR (MCM 6) began the New Year making preparations for an extensive DPMA. DEVASTATOR was the first MCM to receive the new Integrated Ship Control System (ISCS) modification. This system totally transformed CCS into a computer driven watch-standing station, consoles were installed and new sensors went into the engineering plant. Installation began in February along with modifications to the AN/SQQ-32 sonar hatch. Along with the hatch modification the sonar itself was upgraded from the SQQ-30 to the SQQ-32. During availability the Battle Space Profiler system was added. Other jobs included: PRC decking on the mess decks and pilot house, hull cleaning, patching, and painting and non-skid on the 0-3 level. The crew used the yard period to paint the skin of the ship, hydro test fire hoses and complete PMS.

The end of the yard period in April meant the crew was soon entering the upcoming Inter-Deployment Training Cycle. The first hurdle was Light Off Assessment (LOA) with PEB. In support of LOA DEVASTATOR held daily Main Space Fire Drills and training of the engineering watch standers. At the end of April PLOT III was conducted and assisted in preparation for LOA. The week of May 4th brought with it LOA and the ship and crew successfully completed the inspection. The remainder of the month was spent conducting dock trials and making preparations to go to sea in June.

DEVASTATOR put to sea on the 15th of June for sea trials. On the 18th, LCDR Thomas A. Flisk relieved LCDR Brian T. Donegan as Commanding Officer while the ship was still underway for sea trials. The end of the month brought the Chief of Naval Operations DPMA end date and the crew geared up for the next spate of inspections. The pre-cart engineering inspection of HORSE helped prepare the ship for the upcoming CART II inspection. The crew spent most of June going through Afloat Training Group (ATG), CART II check sheets and began the inspection right after the Fourth of July weekend. The ship was assessed as ready to train and began preparing for Engineering Certification (ECERT) and the TSTA cycles. TSTA I DASMN inport was the first inspection and the ship and crew held security and damage control drills to prepare. After DASMN came the Navigation Certification (NAVCERT). Squadron Two came aboard and administered a Rules of the Road exam and administrative check of all navigation paperwork and equipment. The end of the month brought about TSTA II ETG. This inspection provided assistance for the quickly approaching ECERT. In anticipation of ECERT the crew was working on engineering programs and working equipment.

The dog days of August were indeed that, the ship went through TSTA I MIW, TSTA II DASMN, and ECERT. In support of these inspections the crew magnificently performed drills both at sea and inport. Constant damage control drills, Main Space Fire Drills, and MIW tests were performed and contributed to the success of these inspections. September brought a slight break with a RAV in preparation for the upcoming MIW phases of training. Various jobs were performed in the Availability; along with needed maintenance.

The end of September and beginning of October marked the beginning of TSTA II and TSTA IV MIW. The ship sent the weekdays out in the Corpus Christi OPAREA, and the weekends inport preparing for the next weeks underway. While at sea the crew demonstrated various operations including minesweeping and flying the Mine Neutralization Vehicle. This month provided great training time for new crewmembers. Two new MIW evaluators were qualified and new sonar operators were introduced to the SQQ-32 sonar. The fantail teams trained in deploying sweep gear and engineers got training on sweep winches. At the end of October ATG Ingleside evaluated DEVASTATOR in the Final Evaluation Problem (FEP). During FEP the ship and crew demonstrated their ability to perform mass casualties drills and a battle scenario. FEP was successful and the ship was ready for phase two of the training cycle, a Squadron exercise.

The ship got underway for RONEX 98-1 the 9th of November and headed for the Corpus Christi OPAREA. During the exercise junior officers participated in DIVTACS, publication exercises, and experienced being a fleet OOD. The crew also hunted mines, swept mines, and combated casualties in drills. This was the first opportunity for the ship to operate and train with other MCMs. After RONEX, the ship returned to port to prepare for a final evaluation, GOMEX in January. The week before Thanksgiving the supply department went through the Logistics Management Assessment. The galley and the supply system were examined for cleanliness and correctness. November also saw a successful Shipboard Explosive Safety Inspection, and a Combat Systems Readiness Rectification.

The rest of the year was spent preparing for the upcoming GOMEX 99 exercise and the EURO 99 deployment. Holiday leave started mid December as well as did a RAV. In the RAV the ship took care of outstanding jobs and installed the Reverse Osmosis water distiller.