



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY  
USS DOLPHIN (AGSS 555)  
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From: Commanding Officer, USS DOLPHIN (AGSS 555)  
To: Director of Naval History

Subj: USS DOLPHIN (AGSS 555) COMMAND HISTORY FOR CALENDER  
YEAR 1997

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12F

Encl: (1) Commanding Officer's Biography  
(2) Commanding Officer's Photograph  
(3) Welcome Aboard Pamphlet  
(4) Sailing List

1. USS DOLPHIN (AGSS 555) is the Navy's deep diving research and development diesel-electric submarine. USS DOLPHIN (AGSS 555) is under the operational control of Commander Submarine Development Squadron FIVE. USS DOLPHIN (AGSS 555) is commanded by Commander Gerald F. Nies, and is homeported in San Diego, California.

2. The following chronology of events reflect the ships operations for the calendar year 1997:

- a. 10-13 Jan 1997: Underway post RAV sea-trails
- b. 18-24 Jan 1997: Underway ISE and Fleet-EX 97
- c. 27-29 Jan 1997: Underway for Merlin operations
- d. 29 Jan 1997: Fire in the potable water heater controller (no injuries)
- e. 12 Feb 1997: Forward shaft seal was refurbished by the IMA
- f. 20-21 Feb 1997: Underway ISE/CVL testing
- g. 26 Feb - 2 Mar 1997: Underway ISE/CVL testing
- h. 11-12 Apr 1997: Underway ISE
- i. 14 Apr 1997: Underway for Dependents Cruise
- j. 17 Apr 1997: Underway for Dependents Cruise
- k. 18 Apr 1997: Underway for Dependents Cruise
- l. 21-22 Apr 1997: Underway for ISE

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- m. 10-11 May 1997: Supply Dept. logistics readiness exam overall score-above average
- n. 31 May 1997: Completed installation of DOLPHIN's new "ships data system"
- o. 6-13 June 1997: Provided services for torpedo testing / conducted a bottom search for sunken F-1 submarine off San Diego coast. Target was located and charted.
- p. 10 June 1997: LT [REDACTED] relieved LT [REDACTED] as engineering officer
- q. 12 June 1997: Provided services for SWATS off of coast of Catalina Is., California
- r. 13 June 1997: Ships ORE/ERE overall score-above average
- s. 17 June 1997: Commander Gerald F. Nies relieved Commander Joseph P. Peterson as Commanding Officer
- t. 10-17 July 1997: Transited from San Diego to Eureka, California (calm water all the way to Eureka)
- u. 19-24 July 1997: Transited from Eureka, California to Bangor, Washington
- v. 19 July 1997: STS2(SS) [REDACTED] dislocated his shoulder while rigging the bridge for surface. he was tended to by HMC [REDACTED] and ET1 [REDACTED]. Shoulder was relocated by HMC [REDACTED].
- w. 29 July 1997: Provided services for Advanced MK 50 torpedo testing in Dabob Bay, Bangor, Washington.
- x. 4-5 Aug 1997: Transited from Bangor to Nanoose, Canada
- y. 4 Aug 1997: Embarked CSDS-5, Capt. Wachendorf, to observe ships operations.
- z. 5 Aug 1997: Provided services for Advanced MK 50 torpedo testing in the joint US-Canadian marine test range Nanoose, Canada

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- aa. 5 Aug 1997: Disembarked CSDS-5, Capt. Wachendorf.
- bb. 7 Aug 1997: Conducted near bottom operations survey of a proposed underwater range area near the US-Canadian marine test range Nanoose, Canada.
- cc. 13 Aug 1997: Underway for ISE
- dd. 14-15 Aug 1997: Transited from Nanoose, Canada to Esquimalt, Canada
- ee. 14 Aug 1997: Provided services for advanced torpedo testing in the US- Canadian maritime test range in Nanoose, Canada performed more torpedo testing
- ff. 19-25 Aug 1997: Transited from Esquimalt, Canada to Eureka, California
- gg. 27 Aug - 2 Sept 1997: Transited from Eureka, California to San Diego, California
- hh. 3 Sept 1997: Commenced a maintenance availability for a battery replacement
- ii. 27-31 Oct 1997: Underway ISE
- jj. 17-21 Nov 1997: Underway ISE
- kk. 19-31 Dec 1997: Christmas stand-down period.

3. USS DOLPHIN (AGSS 555) performed various research and development projects throughout the year. Various material deficiencies limited amount of underway projects. The three month Pacific Northwest Deployment was accomplished as scheduled with all deficiencies corrected by ships force to ensure all missions were completed.

  
G. F. NIES