



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

USS FLORIDA (SSBN 728)  
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From: Commanding Officer, USS FLORIDA (SSBN 728) (BLUE)

To: Director, Naval Historical Center (N09BH)

Subj: 2000 COMMAND HISTORY

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12G

Encl: (1) Command History and Narrative  
(2) USS FLORIDA (SSBN 728) Welcome Aboard Packet  
(3) Biography and Photograph of Commanding Officer,  
USS FLORIDA (SSBN 728) (BLUE)  
(4) Biography and Photograph of Commanding Officer,  
USS FLORIDA (SSBN 728) (GOLD)

1. Enclosures (1) through (4) are forwarded as required by reference (a).

2. Point of contact is LT [REDACTED], DSN [REDACTED] or commercial (360) [REDACTED]

J. T. POWERS

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CINCPACFLT PAO  
COMSUBPAC PAO

1. Command Composition and Organization. USS FLORIDA (UIC: 35958). The ship's mission is to remain submerged and undetected and serve as a strategic deterrent. The ship's parent command is Commander, Submarine Squadron SEVENTEEN and the ship is homeported at Naval Submarine Base, Bangor, Washington. Two crews alternate manning on approximately 105 day cycles. When not manning the ship, the "off-crew" is under administrative command of Commander, Submarine Group NINE.

2. 2000 Chronology

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>
01 Jan	USS FLORIDA was underway on Patrol 52.
13-16 Jan	Participated in the Stennis Battle Group Anti-Submarine Warfare Exercise (ASWEX 00-1).
19 Jan	Moored Pearl Harbor, HI for torpedo off load and exercise torpedo on load. Underway for Tactical Weapons Proficiency (TWP).
20-21 Jan	Conducted TWP.
22 Jan	Conducted BSP IVO Drydock 4, Pearl Harbor, HI to disembark TWP Team.
24 Jan	Conducted BSP IVO Drydock 4, Pearl Harbor, HI to embark Tactical Readiness Evaluation (TRE) Team.
24-25 Jan	Conducted TRE.
25 Jan	Moored Pearl Harbor, HI for port visit.
31 Jan	Underway for CO's Discretionary Time and Prospective Commanding Officers (PCOs) Operations.
04 Feb	Conducted BSP IVO Kekaha, Kauai to embark PCOs.
04-05 Feb	Conducted PCO Operations.
05 Feb	Moored Pearl Harbor, HI for torpedo onload and port visit.
08 Feb	Underway for Patrol.

21 Feb Conducted BSP IVO Foul Weather Bluff, WA to embark Navy Technical Proficiency Inspection (NTPI) Team.

21-22 Feb Conducted NTPI.

22 Feb Conducted BSP IVO Foul Weather Bluff, WA to disembark Navy Technical Proficiency Inspection (NTPI) Team and embark Tiger Cruise personnel.

22-23 Feb Conducted Tiger Cruise.

23 Feb Conducted BSP IVO Foul Weather Bluff, WA to disembark Tiger Cruise personnel and embark Performance Monitoring Team.

23 Feb Moored Bangor, WA to commence Refit 57.

23 Feb 00 Moored Bangor, WA.

25 Feb 00 Exchange of Command. GOLD Crew relieved by BLUE Crew.

25 Feb-30 Mar Refit 57 and upkeep period.

31 Mar Conducted Sea Trials at Dabob Bay, WA.

01-05 Apr Underway for Patrol 53. Commenced CO's Discretionary Time (CODT) and Refresher Training (REFTRA).

05 Apr Conducted BSP IVO Sequim Bay, WA to debark CODT riders and embark REFTRA riders from COMSUBGRU 9 and COMSUBRON 17.

05-09 Apr Conducted REFTRA in local operating areas.

09 Apr Conducted BSP IVO Sequim Bay, WA to debark REFTRA riders.

13-15 May Port Visit Naval Submarine Base, San Diego, CA.

15 May Conducted BSP IVO San Diego, CA to embark TWP team.

15-18 May TWP held.

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18-19 May 00 Port Visit Naval Submarine Base, San Diego, CA debarked TWP team.

20-21 May Participated in Battle Group Operations with the USS LINCOLN (CVN 72).

29 May Conducted BSP IVO Sequim Bay, WA to embark Operational Reactor Safeguards Exam (ORSE) Team.

29-31 May Conducted ORSE.

31 May Conducted BSP IVO Sequim Bay, WA to debark ORSE Team. Embarked 9 1/C and 2/C Midshipmen.

01-03 Jun Conducted Pacific Sonar Demonstration and Shakedown at Sea Exercise (PACSODASOEX) with USS LOUISVILLE (SSN 714).

05-07 Jun Conducted Sound Trials at the SEAFAC Acoustic Range, Ketchikan, AK.

14 Jun Conducted BSP IVO Sequim Bay, WA to debark Midshipmen. Embarked Pilot, IMF/PMT personnel and three CADET riders.

14 Jun VIP Cruise Dabob Bay, WA in celebration of the Submarine Centennial.

14 Jun Moored Bangor, WA to commence Refit 58.

16 Jun Exchange of Command. BLUE Crew relieved by GOLD Crew.

17 Jul Conducted Sea Trials at Dabob Bay, WA.

19 Jul Underway for REFTRA.

24 Jul Conducted BSP at 0800 IVO Ballast Point, San Diego, CA to debark REFTRA Team and embark Midshipmen and U.S. Strategic Command (STRATCOM) film crew.

24 Jul Conducted BSP at 1700 IVO Ballast Point, San Diego, CA to embark/disembark Midshipmen and debark STRATCOM film crew.

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26 Jul Conducted BSP at 0800 IVO Ballast Point, San Diego, CA to embark/debark Midshipmen.

27 Jul Conducted BSP at 1700 IVO Ballast Point, San Diego, CA to debark Midshipmen.

31 Jul Conducted BSP at 0900 IVO Ballast Point, San Diego, CA to embark Midshipmen.

31 Jul Conducted BSP at 1700 IVO Ballast Point, San Diego, CA to embark/debark Midshipmen.

02 Aug Conducted BSP at 0700 IVO Ballast Point, San Diego, CA to embark/debark Midshipmen.

03 Aug Conducted BSP at 1700 IVO Ballast Point, San Diego, CA to debark Midshipmen.

04 Aug Conducted BSP at 0800 IVO Ballast Point, San Diego, CA to embark Distinguished Visitor Tour.

04 Aug Conducted BSP at 1600 IVO Ballast Point, San Diego, CA to debark Distinguished Visitor Tour.

07 Aug Conducted BSP at 0800 IVO Ballast Point, San Diego, CA to embark Midshipmen.

07 Aug Conducted BSP at 1600 IVO Ballast Point, San Diego, CA to embark/debark Midshipmen.

09 Aug Conducted BSP at 0800 IVO Ballast Point, San Diego, CA to embark/debark Midshipmen.

10 Aug Moored at 1700, San Diego, CA for a Port Visit and to debark Midshipmen.

14 Aug Underway for Patrol from San Diego, CA at 0800 with two Midshipmen embarked.

21 Sep Conducted BSP IVO Sequim Bay, WA to debark Midshipmen.

27 Sep Conducted BSP IVO Sequim Bay, WA to embark the ORSE Team.

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27-29 Sep Conducted ORSE.

29 Sep Conducted BSP IVO Sequim Bay, WA to debark the ORSE Team.

01 Oct Conducted a KILOEX/Security Exercise with USS OHIO (SSBN 726).

03 Oct Moored at Indian Island, WA for a SSBN Continuity Of Operations Program (SCOOP) exercise.

03 Oct Underway from Indian Island, WA.

03 Oct Conducted BSP IVO Foul Weather Bluff, WA to embark Performance Monitoring Team (PMT).

03 Oct Moored Bangor, WA.

05 Oct Underway for VIP cruise to Dabob Bay.

05 Oct Conducted BSP IVO Service Pier, WA to embark VIP cruise personnel.

05 Oct Conducted BSP IVO Service Pier, WA to debark VIP cruise personnel.

05 Oct Moored Bangor, WA to commence Refit 59.

07 Oct Blue Crew relieved the Gold Crew.

10 Oct Ship berth shifted to Delta Pier Drydock.

02 Nov Ship berth shifted to Marginal South Pier.

03 Nov Ship berth shifted outboard USS ALABAMA (SSBN 731).

07 Nov Underway for Daybob Bay Trials. Ship returned to moor at Marginal Pier.

09 Nov Underway for Patrol 55. Ship conducted CODT and REFTRA.

13 Nov Ship conducted personnel transfer at Sequim, WA to debark CODT team and embark REFTRA team.

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16 Nov Commenced KILOEX/Security Exercise with USS OHIO (SSBN 726).

17 Nov Completed KILOEX/Security Exercise with USS OHIO (SSBN 726).

17 Nov Conducted BSP IVO Sequim, WA to debark REFTRA team.

08 Dec Conducted weapons load in San Diego, CA. Underway for TWP certification.

11 Dec Conducted BSP IVO San Diego, CA to embark TWP inspectors and Prospective Commodore, Submarine Squadron SEVENTEEN.

11-14 Dec Conducted TWP.

14 Dec Conducted BSP IVO San Diego, CA to debark TWP inspectors and embark Strategic Readiness Evaluation (SRE) inspectors.

16-20 Dec Port visit in San Diego, CA.

20 Dec Underway from San Diego, CA.

29 Dec - 31 Dec Port visit in Bangor, WA

a. The year 2000 found the FLORIDA underway as the Gold crew was completing Patrol 52. FLORIDA participated in an ASW Exercise with the Stennis Carrier Battle Group and afterwards completed a Tactical Readiness Evaluation/Tactical Weapons Proficiency. Following a port visit to Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, the FLORIDA conducted Prospective Commanding Officer Operations and then returned to Pearl Harbor for a torpedo onload. After returning to the Pacific Northwest, the FLORIDA conducted a Navy Technical Proficiency Inspection (NTPI) and returned to port on February 23, 2000 following a Tiger Cruise held that same day.

b. On February 25, 2000, the Gold crew was relieved by the Blue Crew. The Blue crew took the ship into Refit 57. By all accounts, Refit 57, a drydock refit, was exceptionally busy. Over 110,000 calculated man hours of work went into making the ship ready for sea. A Steam Generator Inspection was completed in addition to the normal refit period upkeep. The refit went

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very well, so well in fact that the Blue Crew was able to get the ship out of drydock early to allow USS ALASKA (SSBN 732) to pull into port early from patrol to begin their conversion from C4 to D5 missiles.

c. After Refit 57 was completed, the ship got underway for Patrol 53 - a very demanding but rewarding patrol for FLORIDA. FLORIDA began Patrol 53 with Commanding Officer's Discretionary Time (CODT), and Refresher Training (REFTRA) periods where riders from Commander, Submarine Group NINE (CSG 9) and Commander, Submarine Squadron SEVENTEEN (CSS-17) evaluated the ship's strategic and tactical abilities.

d. FLORIDA completed a number of inspections/evaluations during Patrol 53. A Tactical Weapons Proficiency Inspection (TWP), Operational Reactor Safeguards Examination (ORSE), Pacific Sonar Demonstration and Shake-Down Exercise (PACSODASOEX) with the USS LOUISVILLE (SSN 714), sound trials at the SEAFAC range in Alaska and a port visits to San Diego, California and Ketchikan, Alaska, were successfully completed.

e. The ship moored at Bangor, Washington, on June 14th. The Gold crew relieved the Blue crew on June 16th and Refit 58 commenced. Following refit, REFTRA was conducted enroute to San Diego, CA from July 19-24th. Midshipmen operations were conducted from July 24th to August 10th, with a visit from a STRATCOM film crew on August 24th. FLORIDA conducted a Distinguished Visitor cruise on August 4th and then moored in San Diego, CA for a port call. FLORIDA departed on August 14th to commence patrol operations. The Gold crew underwent an ORSE from September 27-29th. A few days later, the ship conducted a KILOEX with USS OHIO on October 1st. Near the end of Patrol 54, the Gold crew conducted an SSBN Continuity Of Operations Program (SCOOP) exercise and moored at Bangor, Washington on October 3rd. The Gold crew got the ship underway on October 5th for a "VIP Cruise" to Dabob Bay. FLORIDA returned later that same day to Bangor, Washington to commence Refit 59.

f. Exchange of command occurred between the Gold crew and Blue crew on October 7th. As with Refit 57, Refit 59 was a drydock refit. FLORIDA underwent normal upkeep during the refit and got underway for Dabob Bay sea trials on November 7th. Patrol 55 began on November 9th with CODT and REFTRA. After all CODT and REFTRA riders had completed their evaluations, they were transferred off the ship on November 17th. The ship moored



on December 8th at NAVSUBASE San Diego to load practice torpedos for the pending TWP. FLORIDA returned on Monday, December 12th to embark the TWP inspection team and the Prospective Commodore, Submarine Squadron SEVENTEEN. The TWP was held from December 11-13th. FLORIDA disembarked the TWP inspectors and embarked the SRE inspectors at NAVSUBASE San Diego the morning of December 14th. SRE was held from December 14-16th. After returning to port from very successful TWP and SRE inspections, the crew enjoyed a 4-day port visit in San Diego, CA. The ship got underway from San Diego on December 20th enroute to Bangor, WA. The ship moored at NAVSUBASE Bangor, WA for a holiday port visit on December 29th and remained in port for the remainder of 2000.

Enclosure (1)