



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

USS FLORIDA (SSGN 728)

FLEET POST OFFICE

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From: Commanding Officer, USS FLORIDA (SSGN 728)
To: Director, Naval Historical Center (N09BH)

Subj: 2002 COMMAND HISTORY

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12H

Encl: (1) Command History and Narrative
(2) USS FLORIDA (SSBN 728) Welcome Aboard Packet
(3) USS FLORIDA (SSGN 728) Welcome Aboard Packet
(4) Biography and Photograph of Commanding Officer,
USS FLORIDA (SSBN 728) (GOLD) and (SSGN 728)
(5) Biography and Photograph of Commanding Officer,
USS FLORIDA (SSBN 728) (BLUE)
(6) CNO RMG 171304Z Apr 02 Homeport Administrative
Assignment for USS FLORIDA (SSGN 728)

1. Enclosures (1) through (6) are forwarded as required by reference (a).

2. Point of contact is ENS [REDACTED] DSN or commercial (757) 647-6360.


D. M. DURYEA

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USS FLORIDA (SSGN 728)
COMMAND HISTORY

1. Command Composition and Organization. USS FLORIDA (UIC: 35957). The ship's mission is to remain submerged and undetected and serve as a warship in the United States Navy. The ship's parent command is Commander, Submarine Squadron SIX and the ship is homeported at Norfolk Naval Submarine Base, Norfolk, Virginia as of 1 December 2003. Prior to that the ships parent command had been Commander, Submarine Squadron SEVENTEEN in Bangor, Washington.

2. 2002 Chronology

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>
01 Jan	Refit 63 in progress for Blue Crew at Submarine Base Bangor, WA.
18 Jan	Conducted Tactical Weapons Load at Marginal South Submarine Base Bangor, WA.
19 Jan	Completed Refit 63.
22 Jan	Conducted Sea Trials at Dabob Bay, WA.
24 Jan	Underway for Patrol 59 and Commanding Officer's Discretionary Time (CODT).
28 Jan	Conducted BSP IVO Sequim, WA to embark Refresher Training (REFTRA) Team.
28 Jan - 01 Feb	Conducted REFTRA.
01 Feb	Moored Marginal South at Submarine Base Bangor, WA, per PATORD 20-01 W/CH-1 for Emergent Material Repairs.
02 Feb	Underway to continue Patrol 59.
15 Feb	Moored Pearl Harbor, HI for Weapons Load.
16 Feb	Underway Pearl Harbor, HI to continue Patrol 59.
18 Feb	Conducted BSP IVO Pearl Harbor, HI to embark personnel for PCO operations.

18 - 20 Feb Conducted PCO Operations

20 Feb Conducted BSP IVO Pearl Harbor, HI to debark personnel from PCO operations. Continued Patrol 59.

08 Mar Moored Pearl Harbor, HI for Weapons Load. Underway to continue Patrol 59 the same day.

11 Mar Conducted BSP IVO Pearl Harbor, HI to embark personnel for Strategic Readiness Evaluation/Tactical Weapons Proficiency Inspection (SRE/TWP).

11 - 16 Mar Conducted SRE/TWP.

16 Mar Moored Pearl Harbor, HI for port visit.

16 - 19 Mar Conducted port visit in Pearl Harbor, HI.

19 Mar Underway to continue Patrol 59.

08 Apr Moored Delta South, Naval Submarine Base Bangor, WA.

09 - 10 Apr Conducted Defense Nuclear Surety Inspection/Augmented Navy Technical Proficiency Inspection (DNSI/NTPI) at Naval Submarine Base Bangor, WA.

12 Apr GOLD Crew relieved the BLUE Crew and commenced Refit 64.

12 May Completed Refit 64.

13 May Conducted Sea Trials at Dabob Bay, Washington.

15 May Commenced Patrol 60 and underway for Commanding Officer's Discretionary Time (CODT)/Refresher Training (REFTRA). Conducted Family Member Cruise IVO Dabob Bay, Washington from 0800-1200.

20 May Conducted BSP at 1400 IVO Sequim Bay, Washington to embark REFTRA Team and disembark CODT guests.

23 May Conducted Coordinated Anti Submarine Warfare Training (CAST) Exercise with Patrol and Reconnaissance Squadron One. This provided Maritime Patrol Aircraft (MPA) with an opportunity to track submarines for training.

24 May Conducted BSP at 1200 IVO Sequim Bay, Washington to disembark REFTRA team.

25 May In port Bangor, Washington for repairs to Missile Tube 6 Tube Interface Box.

26 May Underway for Patrol Sixty.

27 May Conducted Humanitarian Evacuation IVO Port Angeles, Washington.

24 - 26 Jun Participated in KILOEX with USS Georgia.

26 - 27 Jun Participated in Polo Hat 02-1.

01 Jul BSP IVO Point Loma, California to embark SRE Team.

01 - 03 Jul Strategic Readiness Examination.

03 Jul Conducted BSP at 0800 IVO Point Loma, California to disembark SRE Team.

08 - 09 Jul In port San Diego, California for Exercise Weapons load.

09 - 12 Jul Tactical Weapons Proficiency Exam.

12 - 16 Jul In port San Diego, California for port visit.

16 - 19 Jul Underway for Pre-Availability Tests and Tiger Cruise.

19 - 22 Jul In port San Diego for port visit and Pre-Availability Testing.

22 Jul Underway for Commanding Officer's Discretionary Time.

26 Jul Moored Bangor, Washington to commence Refit 65.

02 Aug Hosted Commander, Submarine Group Nine Change of Command. BLUE Crew relieved the GOLD Crew and commenced Refit 65.

02 Sep CDR David M. Duryea relieves CDR Jeffrey T. Powers as Commanding Officer, USS FLORIDA (SSBN 728) (BLUE). Completed Refit 65.

03 Sep Conducted Sea Trials at Dabob Bay, WA.

05 Sep Commenced Patrol 61 and underway for Commanding Officer's Discretionary Time (CODT).

09 Sep Conducted BSP IVO Sequim, WA to embark Refresher Training (REFTRA) Team.

09 - 13 Sep Conducted REFTRA.

13 Sep Conducted BSP IVO Sequim, WA to debark REFTRA Team. CDR Jeffrey T. Powers relieves CDR David M. Duryea as Commanding Officer, USS FLORIDA (SSBN 728) (BLUE).

12 Oct Conducted MEDEVAC IVO Port Angeles.

14 Oct Conducted BSP IVO Sequim, WA to embark Nuclear Propulsion Examination Board (NPEB) and Supply Management Inspection Team (SMI).

14 - 16 Oct Conducted Operational Reactor Safeguards Examination (ORSE) and Supply Management Inspection (SMI).

16 Oct Conducted BSP IVO Foul Weather Bluff, WA to debark NPEB and SMI Team. Moored Explosive Handling Wharf, Naval Submarine Base Bangor, WA.

16 - 24 Oct Conducted Strategic Missile Off-Load.

25 Oct BLUE and GOLD crew combination and Change of Command. CDR David M. Duryea relieves CDR Jeffrey T. Powers as Commanding Officer, USS FLORIDA (SSGN 728). This crew combination is to support the shipyard period where the ship will be converted to an SSGN. Designation of the ship changed upon combination.

30 Oct Underway from Bangor, WA enroute to Port Canaveral, FL.

19 - 22 Nov Inport Port Canaveral, FL for port visit. Performed preps for SSGN TLAM DEMONSTRATION VALIDATION (DEMVAL) and Giant Shadow exercises. Picked up Tigers for Tiger Cruise to Kings Bay, GA.

22 Nov Underway for Tiger Cruise to Kings Bay, GA.

24 Nov Inport Kings Bay, GA for port visit. Disembarked Tigers.

24 Nov Performed preps for DEMVAL / Giant Shadow

28 Nov Celebrated Thanksgiving in Kings Bay, GA.

1 Dec Chain of command shifted to COMLANTFLT, COMSUBLANT, COMSUBGRU TWO and COMSUBRON SIX.

17 Dec Conducted force protection exercise Mighty Guardian V Exercise.

17 Dec Underway in route to Norfolk, VA.

19 Dec Inport Norfolk at Naval Base Norfolk, VA for Christmas Standdown. Completed homeport change from Bangor, WA to Norfolk, VA.

19 Dec - Christmas Stand down in Norfolk, VA.
01 Jan

3. Narrative

a. The start of 2002 found USS FLORIDA enjoying the holiday season while Refit 63 was in progress in Bangor, WA. The ship was underway on 22 January and returned to strategic patrol, Patrol 59. On 01 February, the ship pulled in for emergent material repairs and then continued Patrol 59 on 02 February. The ship visited Pearl Harbor, HI in mid February and conducted PCO Operations. March brought a Weapons Load and a Strategic Readiness Evaluation/Tactical Weapons Proficiency along with a three day port visit in Pearl Harbor, HI and then continued with Patrol 59. On 08 April the ship moored in Bangor, WA and conducted a Defense Nuclear Surety Inspection/Navy Technical Proficiency Inspection.

b. On 12 April, the BLUE crew was relieved by the GOLD crew. The GOLD crew took the ship into Refit 64.

c. FLORIDA underwent a normal upkeep during Refit 64 and got underway for sea trials in Dabob Bay, WA on 13 May. On 15 May FLORIDA got underway for Patrol 60. The patrol began with a dependant's cruise in conjunction with Commanding Officer's Discretionary Time (CODT). Five days later the Refresher Training (REFTRA) team arrived and disembarked family members.

d. FLORIDA conducted a CAST exercise with Patrol and Reconnaissance Squadron One on 23 May and returned to Bangor, WA for emergent repairs. Patrol 60 continued on 26 May. On 27 May the ship conducted Humanitarian Evacuation IVO Port Angeles, WA. From 24 - 27 June the ship participated in KILOEX WITH USS GEORGIA and in Polo Hat 02-1. On 01 July the SRE Team embarked and conducted the Strategic Readiness Examination. After disembarking the SRE Team, the ship entered San Diego and loaded exercise weapons. On 12 July the ship conducted the Tactical Weapons Proficiency Exam and then entered San Diego for a 3-day port visit. The ship conducted a Tiger Cruise on 16 - 19 July. Crewmembers were able to bring on male guests and each group of "Tigers" was able to see the ship dive and surface while also seeing the day-to-day lives of their family member. On 19 July, the ship entered San Diego to drop off "Tigers", have a 3-day port visit and perform Pre-Availability Testing. The last part of patrol was providing support services for the USS PARCHE. On 26 July the ship moored in Bangor, WA.

e. FLORIDA commenced Refit 65 on 26 July and hosted Commander, Submarine Group Nine Change of Command on 02 August. On 02 August, the GOLD crew was relieved by the BLUE crew. The BLUE crew took the ship into Refit 65.

f. FLORIDA underwent a normal upkeep during Refit 65 and got underway for sea trials in Dabob Bay, WA on 03 September. CDR Duryea relieved CDR Powers on 03 September and remained in command until 13 September when CDR Powers relieved CDR Duryea. On 05 September FLORIDA got underway for Patrol 61. The patrol began with a dependant's cruise in conjunction with Commanding Officer's Discretionary Time (CODT). Five days later the Refresher Training (REFTRA) team arrived and disembarked family members.

g. On 25 October, the GOLD and BLUE crews combined and a change off command was held where CDR Jeffrey T. Powers was relieved by CDR David M. Duryea as Commanding Officer, USS FLORIDA (SSGN 728).

h. The FLORIDA was underway from Bangor, WA enroute to Port Canaveral, FL on 30 October. The ship arrived in Port Canaveral on 19 November and had a 3-day port visit while performing preps for DEMONSTRATION VALIDATION (DEMVAL) Giant Shadow exercises. On 22 November the ship picked up Tigers for a Tiger Cruise to Kings Bay, GA. The ship arrived in Kings Bay, GA on 24 November for a port visit and disembarked the Tigers. From 24 November to 17 December the ship performed preps for DEMVAL/Giant Shadow V exercises and conducted Mighty Guardian exercise which was a force protection exercise held onboard. The 28th of November was Thanksgiving in Kings Bay, GA and a 4-day weekend for the crew.

i. On 17 December the ship got underway in route to Norfolk, VA. The ship arrived on 19 December in Norfolk at Naval Base Norfolk, VA for Christmas Stand down. The ship completed the homeport change from Bangor, WA to Norfolk, VA.

j. The ship closed out 2002 by spending Christmas Standdown in Norfolk, VA from 19 December to 01 January.

k. The FLORIDA BLUE was awarded the 2002 COMSUBRON SEVENTEEN Battle "E", Navigation "N" and Supply "E". The FLORIDA GOLD was awarded the COMSUBRON SEVENTEEN Engineering "E", Damage Control "DC" and Supply "E". Both command were awarded the 2002 COMPACFLT Golden Anchor Award. The FLORIDA GOLD was a COMPACFLT NEY award winner. The FLORIDA was awarded COMPACFLT best hometown news release program award.