



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
USS FRANK CABLE (AS 40)
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From: Commanding Officer, USS FRANK CABLE (AS-40)
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Encl: (1) 1984 Command History

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


W. GUPILL
By direction

1984

USS FRANK CABLE (AS-40)

Commanding Officers

1979 -1984

Captain Gerald E. Green, USN.....1979 -1981
Captain David K. Bishop, USN.....1981 -1983
Captain James E. Grise, USN.....1983 -1985

USS FRANK CABLE (AS-40)
COMMAND HISTORY, 1984

In the year 1984, USS FRANK CABLE met each and every operational commitment in outstanding fashion. Tasked to support the largest attack submarine squadron in the United States Navy, (twelve SSN's, one SS, two ASR's), she continues to demonstrate the ability to handle any challenge presented. No squadron unit has missed an operational commitment as a result of material or logistics shortfalls since FRANK CABLE commenced the tending duties for Submarine Squadron FOUR.

"Do the job and do it right" is the pervasive spirit throughout each department of the tender. This ideology is reflected in the positive approach given to seemingly monumental jobs. To illustrate, FRANK CABLE completed her first steam generator eddy current inspection with little difficulty and with the least amount of man-REM expended to date.

The Weapons Repair Department maintained all assigned units in a high state of readiness, completing every commitment on schedule. In addition to routine services, FRANK CABLE's Weapons repair department safely handled 621 MK-48 torpedoes, 32 Harpoon Missiles and 44 MK-57 mines. These figures represent at least 70% of all tactical weapons traffic to and from Naval Weapons Station, Charleston, SC. Additionally 240,144 rounds of small arms ammunition and 13,504 pyrotechnic devices were transferred. The Quality Assurance Division conducted 1,123 MK 48-torpedoes QA inspections with 242 failures, 1,027 weight test evaluations with 23 failures, 6,872 SUBROC inspections with 40 failures and 42 Harpoon Missile Inspections with 14 failures.

FRANK CABLE Weapons Repair Department received grades of satisfactory (only sat and unsat were considered) for its safety survey, Magazine Sprinkler System Inspection, Quality Assurance Inspection, Explosive Safety Survey, Tactical Weapons Capability Review, and Navy Technical Proficiency Inspection. Elevators and Cranes were judged "best in the fleet". FRANK CABLE's Weapons Department was certified to handle Conventional Tomahawk Missiles.

In the area of Material Readiness, the Engineering Department is extremely well organized, as evidenced by the following 1984 accomplishments:

- (1) Every underway was met on schedule.
- (2) All Engineering Department repair and hotel services were completed on tended submarines without any delays or refit deferrals.

(3) Overhaul of GB-2A O2N2 production plant which enabled FRANK CABLE to complete it's first submarine oxygen charge and sixteen nitrogen charges.

(4) Both main propulsion boilers are maintained in superior operation condition continually receiving the highest possible ratings on boiler flex's and full power demonstration.

(5) FRANK CABLE's last Operational Propulsion Plant Examination (OPPE) was completed satisfactorily. It was the first inport OPPE for a COMSUBLANT unit.

(6) Completed the Selected Restricted Availability nine days early.

The Supply Quality Assurance Division aboard FRANK CABLE is a unique innovation aboard SUBLANT Tenders. A billet description has been developed and the position has been filled by a Lieutenant out of the current manning structure. The scope of this team's audits has been expanded to include the review of all areas in Supply and has been instrumental in improving supply response and effectiveness.

The Food Services Division has a continuing record of excellence. After winning first place in the 1982 Ney competition, a close second place in the 1983 competition, FRANK CABLE again won top honors in the 1984 Ney Award competition, Large Afloat Category. Both the Ney inspectors and a recent Supply Management Inspection team were particularly impressed with the 100% inventory validity, flawless records, and superlative cleanliness and sanitation. Their conclusion: The food service operation is clearly the best in the Navy!

The Supply Support Center provided extraordinary service to the largest Submarine Squadron in the U. S. Navy. Over 3,200 customer requisitions were processed monthly, of which 150 to 300 high priority requisition items were monitored expeditiously at any one time. The Supply Support Center recently instituted the "Boat Monitor" program, providing improved supply support to all tended units, and at the same time improving document control.

Repair of Other Vessels Supply Support Division (ROVSS) has improved in every area of support to the Intermediate Maintenance Activity (IMA). ROVSS processes 2,200 requisitions monthly, of which 1,400 are high priority for the Repair Department. ROVSS has implemented a boat monitor concept which has greatly increased the quality of customer service and monitoring of all requisitions. Inforex System has been installed on other SUBLANT tenders using FRANK CABLE as a model.

FRANK CABLE Communications personnel demonstrated their readiness for mobilization by flawless performance during 1984 underway training periods. During each underway, FRANK CABLE participated satisfactorily in a complete series of ESTEEM HIGHLY/ESCROW ACCOUNT communications drills administered.

In April 1984 FRANK CABLE was assigned duties as Launch Area Support Ship for a Demonstration and Shakedown Operation off Cape Canaveral. In addition to providing outstanding communications support for the scheduled events, FRANK CABLE communications personnel exhibited unsurpassed dedication and versatility in their expedient response to the emergent communications required of FRANK CABLE as the first ship on the scene of an open ocean helicopter crash.

A grade of satisfactory was received for every communications inspection with laudatory comments from every inspector.

In order to be prepared for the worst, FRANK CABLE crewmembers participate in organized weapons, damage control and radiological controls drills twice weekly. Many inspectors during 1984 have commented on knowledge level, quick response and enthusiasm. It is evident through her successful inspection success rate that FRANK CABLE knows how to effectively drill and effectively train her personnel to handle routine operations as well as casualty situations.

The Hull Repair Division has continued to improve in all areas, providing quality repairs to submarine tended units and in the support of other repair divisions. The Weld Shop has recently completed major repairs to FRANK CABLE's Radioactive Liquid Waste (RLW) piping system to repair defective and flawed installed piping. Also, of particular interest was the overhaul and repair of FRANK CABLE's three installed Air Conditioning Heat Exchangers. These heat exchanges were retubed and overhauled at a savings of \$286,000.00 and FRANK CABLE is the only IMA to have taken the initiative to complete these repairs. The Nuclear Welding repairs to numerous charging, primary relief and discharge valve repairs and replacement on board tended submarine units reflect the overall "can do" attitude of the Hull Repair Division.

The Inside Machinery Repair division efforts in the precision milling of tube sheets for the Air Conditioning Heat Exchangers were of the highest quality and proved the capability of FRANK CABLE's Machinery Repairman to manufacture critical parts with precision tolerances. The effectiveness of the Mechanical Standards Laboratory has improved and is considered by other IMA's as a model to emulate. Its Optical/Periscope Repair Shop provides quality and effective repairs and alignments to twelve submarine units.

The Electrical Repair Division completed eight motor generator overhauls on six tended units. It's support of Gyro Compass, electrical cabling and hull fitting repairs have allowed all tended submarine units to meet vital operational commitments.

The Quality Assurance Division developed a formal "controlled work package close-out check-off program" that has significantly reduced the number of administrative errors that occur in the documentation of the high volume of repair work performed by FRANK CABLE. The division also initiated a Quality Assurance Audit and Surveillance Program that has subsequently been adopted by the Type Commander for implementation at all COMSUBLANT IMA's.

In all, 1984 showed FRANK CABLE living up to the high standards her ship's slogan suggests: PARATA VOLLENSQUE (Prepare Gladly).

SIGNIFICANT REPAIRS PERFORMED ON TENDED UNITS:

- a. Completed the in-place overhaul of six 300KW Ship Service Motor Generator Sets (SSMG's) without the need for major hull cuts or outside assistance.
- b. Completed the in-place overhaul of eight 43.2 KW motor generators that required complete disassembly, cleaning, rotor removal repair and replacement. FRANK CABLE is THE recognized expert in this important area, a testimonial to this fact is that these repairs have been completed in four to five days with no rework.
- c. Completely retubed and replaced eroded tubes and tube sheets for FRANK CABLE's three installed R-114 air conditioning heat exchangers without the need for outside contractual support at a savings of \$238,000.00. These repairs are normally shipyard/depot level maintenance repairs.
- d. Manufactured molds and fabricated ice caps for the AN/BIA-4 FSM mast and mast fairing spacers for the AN/BRD-7 antenna Ship's Alterations (SHIPALT) previously accomplished only by Portsmouth Naval Shipyard Submarine Repair Depot.
- e. The only IMA to completely overhaul, repair and refurbish mast and antenna fairings. Other IMA's contract out these refurbishments or refer them to a local Naval Shipyard.
- f. Successfully completed a Steam Generator Eddy Current Inspection on a nuclear submarine. Note this inspection was completed ahead of schedule and with significant man-rem savings. The timely completion of this job enabled the FRANK CABLE to enter her Shipyard Availability on schedule.
- g. Accomplished complex nuclear repairs on several main coolant cutout valve canopy seals in a markedly short period of time to support tended units pre-overseas movement (POM) deployment.
- h. Corrected a major builders design defect to the FRANK CABLE's Radioactive Waste System piping, requiring precision radical pipe bends and fit up in order to recertify the ships Primary Relief Valve Testing capability.
- i. Completely rebuilt main shaft/thrust bearing resonance changer in an extremely short period with no outside assistance. This repair is normally beyond an afloat IMA capability.
- j. Completed two special underwater submarine tow installations and three waterborne propeller changes to tended units. One of which was accomplished in an unprecedented twenty-nine (29) hours.

SHIP'S STATISTICS

Ship (Name/Hull Number):	USS FRANK CABLE (AS-40)
Group/Squadron assignment:	Submarine Group Six/ Submarine Squadron FOUR
Homeport:	Charleston, South Carolina
Built by:	Lockheed Shipbuilding and Construction Co. Seattle, Washington
Keel Laid:	March 2, 1975
Christened:	January 14, 1978
Commissioned:	October 20, 1979
Length:	644 feet
Beam:	85 feet
Full Load Displacement:	23,000 tons
Full Load Draft:	26 feet
Power:	20,000 shaft horsepower
Sustained Speed:	18 knots
Total Complement:	1,351 persons
Decks/Levels:	13
Compartments and Spaces:	913