



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY  
USS FRANK CABLE (AS 40)  
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From: Commanding Officer, USS FRANK CABLE (AS-40)  
To: Director of Naval History, (OP-09BH), Washington Navy Yard, Washington,  
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Subj: ANNUAL COMMAND HISTORY

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12C

Encl: (1) 1985 Command History  
(2) USS FRANK CABLE Underway Schedule for 1985  
(3) USS FRANK CABLE Inspection Results for FY85

1. Per reference (a), enclosures (1) through (3) are forwarded.

*N.W. Mims, Jr.*  
N. W. MIMS, JR.

USS FRANK CABLE (AS-40) UNDERWAY SCHEDULE, 1985

MAR 16-18 - ISE

MAY 17-25 - ANNAPOLIS PORT VISIT

AUG 26-30 - TORPEX

SEP 26-27 - HURRICANE EVASION

NOV 9-11 - OPERATIONS

Encl (2)

USS FRANK CABLE (AS-40)  
COMMAND HISTORY, 1985

In Fiscal Year 1985, USS FRANK CABLE exercised the combination of competence and diligence on the part of her crew to prove once again that she is worthy of supporting one of the largest attack submarine squadrons in the United States Navy.

On 7 June 1985, Captain Norman W. Mims Jr., assumed the title of Commanding Officer of the FRANK CABLE from Captain James E. Grise in a ceremony that involved both the FRANK CABLE and Submarine Squadron FOUR changes of command in a single ceremony.

The Weapons Repair Department maintained all assigned units in a high state of readiness, completing all commitments on schedule. This year the Weapons Repair Department safely handled over 600 Torpedoes and Missiles, 3,475 Protechnic Devices and 89,000 rounds of small arms ammunition. The Quality Assurance/Weight Test Division conducted over 1390 QA and Missile inspections and 1,130 weight tests.

FRANK CABLE Weapons Repair Department received grades of SAT (only SAT or UNSAT are assigned) on two Nuclear Weapons Acceptance Inspections, a Tactical Weapons Capability Review, a short notice Navy Technical Proficiency Inspection, a Magazine Sprinkler System Inspection, a Quality Assurance Inspection, an Explosive Safety Review, and a Safety Survey. In the course of these inspections the following comments were made: Magazine Sprinkler System noted as "the best in the Atlantic Fleet", the Weapons Elevators graded as "Excellent", and the torpedo shop and magazine spaces noted as "best seen in the Atlantic Fleet", by the Chief Inspector. As a result of the inspections, much of FRANK CABLE's nuclear weapons security program and required reading programs have been adopted as guidelines for other ships. Also resulting from the inspections was FRANK CABLE's certification to handle nuclear TOMAHAWK Missiles (TLAM-N) in addition to the conventional version. Weapons Repair also participated in the open ocean recovery of four MK 48 Exercise Torpedoes.

Engineering support provided to every submarine in refit was on schedule as requested without delays or refit deferrals. Engineering can also claim as a success the anchored tending of one submarine (Annapolis port visit) which allowed maximum liberty to the SSN as all possible in port type services were provided including transportation by boat and vehicles.

The Engineering Department maintained all equipment at a high level of material readiness throughout FRANK CABLE. Rear Admiral Catola, Commander Submarine Group SIX remarked after an engineering space walk-thru, "The engineering spaces are the cleanest I've seen in my 25 years in the Navy."

The Deck Department was superb in meeting all operational commitments and in supporting all tended units. In particular, First Division handled over 600 unit moves on the pier and alongside. Mooring plans for all tended units were developed in a FRANK CABLE instruction. Commander Submarine Squadron FOUR has personally noted mooring and underway events have improved dramatically. First Division has also continued their outstanding efforts in shipboard painting and preservation.

Second Division continued their accident free record in completing over 6,500 crane lifts. A NAVSSESS Crane Audit conducted in July 1985 noted FRANK CABLE's crane program to be one of the most thorough inspected.

Third Division provided small boat support for over 600 unit moors, numerous personnel transfers and numerous weapons transfers. They also provided continuous liberty boat runs for ship's crew and submarines alongside during a three day port visit to Annapolis in May, 1985, while the ship was anchored in the harbor. Third Division provided small boat service during ship's participation in torpedo recovery exercises in June 1985. Completed major hull renovations on 40', and 50' utility boats, motor whale boat, two LCM-6 boats, and Commander Submarine Squadron FOUR barge.

Fourth Division completed six submarine screw change outs with the YD 232 60-ton floating crane. They conducted over 600 crane lifts with 60-ton and 20-ton mobile cranes as well as completing numerous rigging jobs in support of IMA work on tended units.

In addition, Deck Department prepared the ship for all underway and mooring evolutions which were completed in a timely and professional manner. During Hurricane Bob, in July 1985, Deck Department rigged the ship and submarines alongside for heavy weather and ensured units stayed safely and securely moored throughout the destructive winds.

The Supply Department's improved performance resulted in SUBLANT awarding an "ABOVE AVERAGE" to the department during the annual Supply Management Inspection, and selection as the SUBLANT Battle Efficiency (Supply) award winner for the second consecutive year (1984-1985).

Operating in an extremely demanding environment, FRANK CABLE supply has been consistently superior in its support of all units.

FRANK CABLE's laundry and dry cleaning facility, revamped in 1985, is the busiest and most efficient in SUBLANT. They serve 3,200 customers from 16 supported units of SUBRON FOUR. Additionally, to increase service to the crew, all barber shops were remodeled and vending machines updated. These improvements have boosted crew morale and raised ship's store profits by 75 percent.

The FRANK CABLE Disbursing operation maintains more than 3,200 pay records, an average monthly payroll of \$2,600,000, and processes over 300 travel claims per month. Notable achievements in disbursing are:

- Travel claim processing time has been reduced from 11.84 days to 3-5 days.

- Consistently maintained the monthly combined error jump at 1.0% far better than the LANTFLT average of 1.9%. (3) Received only grade (to date) of outstanding in disbursing given on a COMSUBLANT Supply Management Inspection.

Food Service on FRANK CABLE is second to none. Customer support services have greatly improved through the development of new and innovative procedures to increase efficiency.

FRANK CABLE was also found to have 100% inventory validity in ship's store and food service during the Supply Management Inspection.

The FRANK CABLE Supply Department has made great strides in the professional development of reserve personnel, thus making them valuable assets in filling critical personnel shortages on board.

Qualification receives high priority in the Supply Department as evidenced by its superb record of advancement and the earning of Surface Warfare Supply Corps Officer designation by three FRANK CABLE supply officers.

The Communications Center supports SUBRON FOUR with extreme efficiency. An average of 10,000 incoming and outgoing messages are processed per month while maintaining an average intervention rate of less than 2.5%.

In 1985, FRANK CABLE Communications completed a Communications Readiness Evaluation with a grade average of 90.6. In addition, it completed the first Combat Systems Readiness Review for submarine tenders and completed Top Secret and Cosmic Control Point Inspections with zero discrepancies.

Morale on board remains high due largely to a strong chain of command which fosters the team concept. The Commanding Officer is a staunch supporter of community involvement and recreation programs.

Support of numerous social and charitable organizations within the Charleston area has helped to make FRANK CABLE a leader in public relations.

Shipwide interest in ESWS qualifications (particularly in the Engineering Department) has resulted in 110 FRANK CABLE personnel qualifying for the Surface Warfare program in fiscal year 1985.

The "Cable Car" provides no-cost transportation for the crew members and is a major boost to ship's morale - and the "Cable Gram," the ship's monthly periodical, informs and entertains members of the FRANK CABLE as well as supported units.

The FRANK CABLE is prepared to undertake any tasking because of effective management and leadership resources. The successful and effective integration of reserve detachments during active duty for training and weekend drills has been a plus for FRANK CABLE as well.

The FRANK CABLE Repair Department continued to set the pace in executing complex and significant repairs to tended units of Submarine Squadron FOUR, a diverse squadron of ships including the only diesel-powered submarine on the East Coast, ten SSN's (one of which is one-of-a-kind unique engineering plant), two ASR's, a TWR, and miscellaneous small craft. In addition to normally scheduled inspections, the ship successfully completed an intense audit conducted by NAVSEA 08. Significant improvements and upgrade programs were initiated in the areas of training, quality assurance, and nuclear repair management.

The nuclear weld shop of the Hull Repair Division conducted many nuclear repairs to various submarines and played a critical role during three Steam Generator Eddy Current Inspections in 1985.

Both the Inside and Outside Machine Shops continued to perform in an outstanding manner, completing work on a multitude of equipment (pumps, valves, hydraulic assemblies, shafts, etc.) vital to the mission of SUBRON FOUR.

FRANK CABLE's Nuclear Support Facility supported timely completion of steam generator inspections with significant man-rem savings. This division continues to support time consuming nuclear repair jobs fully, in addition to providing routine services.

FRANK CABLE divers completed three authorized civilian medical treatments with the use of hyperbaric oxygen. These treatments have significantly increased the limited knowledge of oxygen treatments under pressure and its tremendous healing potential. Divers also supported significant nuclear jobs (XC systems hull blanbo's, goose neck hook-ups).

The Nuclear Repair Division has performed a steady pace of repairs, including relief valve tests, SHIPALT installations, and repair to CHV, XC, RA, and SG systems. The most noteworthy accomplishment was an eddy current inspection (and subsequent tube removal) on an SSN's steam generator which had unique horizontal tubing. Primary relief valves were tested on three SSN's.

The Medical Department successfully completed the annual Medical Readiness Inspection conducted by Submarine Squadron Four and COMSUBLANT with an overall grade of "Above Average." They also received the first "Yellow M" awarded in Battle "E" competition for excellence in Medical Department performance, and maintained the highest levels of medical readiness which contributed directly to the successful completion of the following inspections: NAVSEA 08 Audit, RCPE, and an unannounced NTPI. Medical also continued improvements in preventive medicine/occupational health. A comprehensive industrial hygiene survey was completed - the first one since the ship's commissioning. A sight conservation program was created and implemented. "State of the Art" dental equipment enhances the capability of the Dental Department to provide the best possible professional care. The average dental readiness state of COMSUBRON FOUR stayed near 90% during 1985, with two units deploying at 100%. 1 July marked the turnover of Dental Department Head from CDR [REDACTED], DC, USN to CDR [REDACTED], DC, USN.

FRANK CABLE's performance has improved significantly during this fiscal year and that performance is a matter of record. FRANK CABLE has met every challenge and commitment in spite of potential set backs such as a declining trend in manning, increased "Hotel" requirements, severe shortages in critical rates and reduced manning of petty officers replaced by E-3 and below. By making maximum use of personal initiatives and applying sound management techniques, FRANK CABLE has attained a reputation for excellence in all areas of shipboard operation.

**INSPECTIONS FISCAL YEAR 1985**

1.	Industrial Plant Equipment Inspection	Satisfactory
2.	Radiological Controls Practice Exam	Average
3.	NAVSEA Code 08 Audit	Satisfactory
4.	Proficiency & Readiness Evaluation	Satisfactory
5.	Quality Assurance Audit	Satisfactory
6.	Navy Technical Proficiency Inspection	Satisfactory
7.	Tactical Weapons Capability Review	Satisfactory
8.	Explosive Safety Survey	Satisfactory
9.	Magazine Sprinkler System Inspection	Satisfactory
10.	CMS Inspection	Average
11.	Cosmic Control Point Inspection	Outstanding
12.	Supply Material Inspection	Above Average
13.	Medical Readiness Inspection	Satisfactory
14.	3-M Inspection	Satisfactory
15.	PMS Evaluation	Satisfactory
16.	PMS Performance Rate	98%
17.	MDS Evaluation	Satisfactory
18.	Communications Readiness Evaluation	Average