



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, DC 20374-0571

Subj: ANNUAL COMMAND HISTORY

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12E

Encl: (1) 1989 Command History
(2) Welcome Aboard Booklet
(3) Photograph of Ship
(4) Underway Schedule
(5) Copies of 1989 Cablegram

1989

1. Per reference (a), enclosure (1) through (5) are forwarded.


B. S. MCFARLAND
By direction

USS FRANK CABLE (AS 40)

COMMAND HISTORY

The USS FRANK CABLE (AS 40) provides a mobile support base for nuclear powered SSN 688 LOS ANGELES Class, and SSN 637 STURGEON class high-speed attack submarines. FRANK CABLE is an auxiliary to these submarines. The ship contains 53 specialized shops for submarine support as well as various services such as laundry, repair parts, medical and dental facilities, legal counseling, mail, disbursing services, barber shops and ship's stores. There are living quarters for up to 1240 officers and enlisted personnel, both men and women. Submarines moored alongside for servicing can be provided with compressed gases, steam, diesel fuel, water, electricity and various other services. The Commanding Officer of FRANK CABLE is Captain R. P. Vidosic. Captain Vidosic assumed the title as Commanding Officer of USS FRANK CABLE on 26 May 89. The USS FRANK CABLE is homeported in Charleston, South Carolina.

FRANK CABLE received the Battle Efficiency "E", Communications "C", Medical "M" and Dental "D" awards. From July through November, FRANK CABLE conducted a successful five month Docking Selected Restricted Availability.

The Repair Department maintained all tended units of Submarine Squadron FOUR in a SUPERB state of material readiness, completing 57 availabilities on 27 submarines and 4 surface ships involving over 10,000 individual jobs and the expenditure of more than 700,000 manhours. Every availability was completed on or ahead of schedule. Specific accomplishments include:

- Completed a highly successful four month Docking Selected Restricted Availability (DSRA) which required the completion of more than 1900 individual jobs and resulted in a significant improvement in the material condition of the ship.
- Completed several time critical repairs to propulsion plant equipment in support of the Operational Propulsion Plant Examination (OPPE). This inspection was completed with ABOVE AVERAGE results.
- Successfully completed the emergent, high priority replacement of a major primary plant valve on a tended unit. In spite of having never replaced a similar valve nor receiving formal training prior to assignment of the job, Repair Department personnel trained for and completed the valve replacement in less than four weeks.
- Completed the installation of thirteen nuclear ship alterations in the NSF during the DSRA which was more than twice the number completed by any other tender of the same class during a similar period.
- Significantly improved the material condition of the Repair Department's shops. Overall cleanliness, preservation, and stowage of the shops were evaluated as OUTSTANDING during the FY-90 Maintenance Management Inspection (MMI). The MMI report stated that USS FRANK CABLE had "... the best shops seen by the MMI Team in the past 13 months".
- Successfully completed three SSBN refits while their parent tender was in SRA. Following each upkeep, FRANK CABLE received a message from the Commanding Officers of each unit citing the outstanding support, attention to detail and quality of work provided.
- Successfully completed a complex repair to the steering and diving hydraulic piping for a visiting SSN 688 class submarine in less than 48 hours. FRANK CABLE received a message of appreciation from the Commanding Officer for the short-fused effort to ensure the ship met its operational commitment.
- Successfully completed simultaneous upkeeps and sent three SSN's to sea on the same day. FRANK CABLE received a letter of congratulations from the Commander, Submarine Squadron FOUR citing this superb management, planning, and repair effort.
- Successfully completed emergent voyage repairs for two Canadian submarines during their port visit to Charleston. FRANK CABLE received messages from both Commanding Officers citing the quality of the work performed and the dedication of the personnel who performed it.
- Successfully completed a Steam Generator Inspection (SGI) and a pre-overhaul refit on an SSBN. FRANK CABLE received a message from VADM R. F. BACON citing the hard work, high standards, and daily efforts of the personnel in completing the refit on time and within cost.
- Provided full support to a naval shipyard during the successful completion of SGI's on two Submarine Squadron FOUR units.
- Successfully completed several hyperbaric chamber treatments in life threatening situations and numerous hyperbaric oxygen treatments for retired personnel.
- Successfully completed the waterborne replacement of 102 BQQ-5 hull array hydrophones on a tended unit. This work is normally performed in a drydock and was completed in approximately one half of the predicted time.

The Weapons Repair Department maintained all assigned units of Submarine Squadron FOUR in the highest state of readiness, completing every commitment on or before schedule. During CY 89, the Weapons Repair Department handled in excess of 285,000 pounds Net Explosive Weight (NEW). This is the SEVENTH consecutive year that FRANK CABLE has handled without an incident or accident. The support provided by the Weapons Repair Department was instrumental in the successful completion of a Docking Selected Restricted Availability (DSRA).

- Completed a Tactical Weapons Capability Review (TWCR) in January 1989. Seven areas were inspected, of these four received "Above average" and three "Average". Improvements were noted in: Technical Operations and AA&E Accountability.

- Commenced the deactivation of the SUBROC missile system in February 1989 by offloading missile components. The deactivation was completed in June 1989 after removal of the T-3054A test set and associated test equipment.

- A Navy Technical Proficiency Inspection (NTPI) was conducted in April 1989 in eleven areas of Weapons Repair Department responsibility with nine "Outstanding" and two "Excellents".

- Approximately 300 hours of Small Arms classroom training were held leading to over 900 shipboard personnel qualifying on all weapons. Small arms training was conducted twice for the USS PETREL. In addition, the Weapons Repair Department instructed and coordinated the qualification of over 700 personnel for the Ship's Firewatch for DSRA.

- During the Docking Selected Restricted Availability (DSRA) Weapons Repair Department refurbished and painted all Weapons Repair Department shops, magazines and storerooms.

- QA Division monitored the complete offload and subsequent onload of all ordnance materials in support of the USS FRANK CABLE (AS-40) DSRA.

- Conducted inspections on over 200 MK 48 warshot and exercise torpedos, 55 SUBROC Missiles, 22 TOMAHAWK Cruise Missiles, 66 Pyrotechnics and 650 receipt and transfer inspections of various small arms ammunition.

- Tactical and logistic support was provided to Submarine Squadron FOUR units for two NTPI's.

- Conducted 120 hours/970 man hours of TOMAHAWK maintenance and handling training.

- Certified for and conducted MK 48/Advance Capabilities (ADCAP) Torpedo loadout in preparation for NCO Project "Under the Ice" exercises.

- QEL Surveillance (number of major deficiencies): None

- Quality Assurance Audit Deficiencies: None

- Alterations Performed: On tended unit (2),
On tender: AS-1954F, AS-2055D, AS-1743F,
AS-1849F, MK 4-0 PVPCS
Communications (No AS/A&I assigned).

- ITEMS Handled:

<u>TYPE</u>	<u>NBR HANDLED</u>	<u>NBR PREPARED</u>
MK 48	199	160
ADCAP	30	24
HARPOON	2	2
SUBROC	16	2
TOMAHAWK	27	9
PYROS	6697	6697
AMMO (ROUNDS)	194,904	194,904

- QA Inspection Conducted 2760

- Weight Test Conducted 590

- Average number personnel assigned repair: 57

The Engineering Department is an extremely capable and confident department which is service-oriented, and has the reputation for expert organization and superb material and operational readiness. The following are but a few examples of their capabilities and accomplishments:

---Completed an arduous Docking Selected Restricted Availability which was interrupted by the untimely arrival of Hurricane Hugo. This event required an emergency flood of the dry dock, and the immediate closure of all open fuel and water tanks, plus the installation of hull valves that had been removed for repair/replacement. This was accomplished in a minimum of time, with no accidents. The ship rode out the hurricane in the flooded drydock, and provided her own power for approximately 11 days after the hurricane.

---Provided the following services to tended units: electricity, steam, potable water, firemain, L.P. air, H.P. air, chilled water, nitrogen, CHT removal, telephones and closed circuit television feed.

---Hosted two separate seminars for Charleston-based ships and shore commands for Navy Broadcasting Service and Navy Motion Picture Service.

---Completely overhauled two HPACs and three LPACs.

---Conducted extensive repairs and safety upgrades to the ship's elevators and conveyors.

---Maintained the mechanical and electrical condition of the busiest and most efficient laundry and dry cleaning facility in SUBLANT.

---Achieved a grade of SATISFACTORY on a CINCLANTFLT PEB Operational Propulsion Plant Examination (OPPE), with an assigned adjective grade of ABOVE AVERAGE. This is an event that has rarely occurred in SUBLANT, and is a measure of the amount of the diligent work and unrelenting attention to minor details that all hands in the Engineering Department expended in the months prior to the OPPE. Repair Party Personnel were rated as "OUTSTANDING".

---Received a grade of SATISFACTORY on a TYCOM 3M Inspection, citing only very minor discrepancies.

---Supplied Radiological Controls Division with the required amounts of demineralized feed water.

---Maintained two 5 ton traveling cranes and one 30 ton Boat and Repair Crane in top mechanical and electrical condition to support over 1000 lifts.

---Changed out the blower for the Emergency Diesel Generator Engine.

---Provided tended units with diesel engine, governor, injector and transmission overhauls. In addition, the Engineering Department completed repairs and overhauls to several small boats assigned to the ship and squadron which were damaged due to Hurricane Hugo, two of which sank during the storm.

---Received a grade of SATISFACTORY for a short-notice Nuclear Technical Proficiency Inspection (NTPI). Repair Party personnel were rated "ABOVE AVERAGE".

---Received a grade of "SATISFACTORY" for a Radiological Controls Practices Examination (RCPE). Duty Damage Control Party personnel were graded as "AVERAGE".

---Installed all new waterline security lamps around the ship.

---Completed extensive repairs and new installations in preparation for the annual Supply Management Inspection, including a new taco bar and new electrical circuits to support installation of new equipment.

---Completely rewired several small boats, including two new 50 foot utility boats.

---Completed emergent repairs to No. 2 400 Hz Special Frequency Motor generator set.

---Overhauled two fireroom ventilation fan motors.

---Overhauled the 1S/1SAS Bus Tie breaker and the 1EG 1600 amp frame size ACB circuit breaker to support an underway commitment.

---Replaced the following: bearings in No. 1 and No. 7 Fire Pumps, an ABT in the fire room, the motor-operated discharge valve on No. 5 Fire Pump, all switchboard lighting fixtures, and contactors in all A/C controllers.

---Electrically connected several new package A/C units.

---Overhauled the Master and Auxiliary Gyrocompasses and Gyro System.

---Repaired Impressed Current Cathodic Protection System anode.

---Installed new forced draft blower tachometers.

---Procured and installed remote temperature indicating system for the main line shaft bearing.

---Repaired the Dead Reckoning System and the Underwater Log Indicator/Transmitter.

---Recertified the Wind Speed and Direction (HD-HE) System.

---Replaced the lube oil cooler for No. 3 SSTG.

---Overhauled No. 1 Evaporator Brine Overboard Pump and No. 1 Evaporator Feed Pump.

---Overhauled numerous main steam silver seal valves.

---Replaced the lube oil purifier.

---Completely painted out the Engine Room and Fireroom in preparation for a CINCLANTFLT PEB OPPE.

---Replaced HP turbine casing drain manifold and valves.

---Installed electric prime mover for main circulating pump.

---Conducted several boiler flexes on all propulsion boilers with nothing less than level 1 being achieved.

---Performed successful full power trial.

"DC" DIVISION

1. The DC Division maintained all Damage Control equipment at the highest state of readiness, and inventories sufficient to assist tended units with alongside training and equipment to combat any damage control casualty. Specific events include:

a. CINCLANTFLT Operational Propulsion Plant Examination

(1) Overall grade of above average. Damage Control equipment rated as outstanding. Repair Party personnel were rated as "Outstanding".

b. Nuclear Technical Proficiency Inspection

(1) This inspection was given on short notice. No deficiencies were noted in any repair lockers. Repair Party personnel were rated as "Above Average".

c. Radiological Controls Practices Examination

(1) No deficiencies were noted in any repair lockers. Duty Damage Control Party was rated as "Average".

2. All damage control drills are conducted as per the requirements of FXP-4. Grading criteria from FXP-4 is utilized to grade all drills conducted.

3. Repair Locker training is conducted weekly by the Repair Locker OIC's. Each week, one repair locker conducts a drill and is graded on actions taken. Underway, training is conducted daily for repair lockers and the At Sea Fire Party.

4. Frank Cable has initiated a battle problem for each underway period. This involves the entire ship in efforts to combat simulated damage that may occur from enemy action or shipboard casualties.

FRANK CABLE's Supply Department has continued to enhance its reputation as the best attack submarine tender supply operation in the fleet through improved performance and service. The Supply Department has mapped out its goals and objectives utilizing sound management concepts and high standards. The results of this effort were initially reflected in the Supply Management Inspection (SMI) grade of ABOVE AVERAGE and in the continually improving supply support provided to all tended units. Noteworthy accomplishments and improvements in the Supply Department included:

- Maintained an OUTSTANDING rating on COMSUBLANT's Monthly Management Performance Report (Achieving over 900 points for both July and August 1990).
- Modified Issue/Receiving procedures to improve service and inventory accuracy.
- Enhanced services to FRANK CABLE and COMSUBRON FOUR by:

Redesigning the Vending Sales Area for 24 hour usage while maintaining required controls and accountability.

Modifying the Crew's Barber Shop to better serve females and males assigned to AS-40 and supported units.

Modifying Ship's Store hours of operation to provide 12 hour per day service five days a week.

Redesigning the Ship's Store fronts and passageways (work scheduled to complete in Nov 90).

Redesigning the Ship's Self Service Laundry (work scheduled to complete in Nov 90).

- Significantly upgraded the Food Service spaces through:

A complete redesign and renovation of the serving lines and mess deck areas (work scheduled to complete in Dec 90). Renovated passageways and heads in the 02 Level adjacent to the Wardroom.

- Achieved 100% automated payday (DDS/ATM) for the crew through the successful installation of four ATMs.

- Received SATISFACTORY grade on the Fleet Accounting and Disbursing Center surprise disbursing examination.

USS FRANK CABLE provided superb communications support for the embarked staff of Submarine Squadron Four, 10 assigned SSN's, two ASR's, one TWR and several visiting SSBN's. An average of 9600 incoming and 1500 outgoing messages were processed per month utilizing the Standard Remote Terminal (SRT).

Communication Division specific accomplishments included:

- Completed Type Commander's Communications Readiness Evaluation (CRE) in June 1990 with a grade of 84.1 (Average) just 0.9 points away from an above average score. This excellent performance was achieved after only 6 months of operational experience following a five month Docking Selected Restricted Availability. This was the first CRE conducted under the new COMSUBLANT CRE instruction which significantly upgraded the evaluation criteria.
- Successfully completed DSRA, during which the communications suite was completely refurbished and remodeled. In addition, communications personnel assisted the Operations Department in the complete refurbishment of the 04, 05 and 06 levels including the fore and main masts.
- Successfully participated in three Strategic Communication System tests which included two Polo Hat exercises and one High Frequency (HF) mobile communications test.
- Completed the installation and certification of the Standard Remote Terminal (SRT) with no interruptions in the communications support to Submarine Squadron Four and tended units.
- Completed the installation and certification of the TSEC/KG-84C cryptographic system with no interruption in the communications support to Submarine Squadron Four and tended units.
- Completed the installation and certification of the Advanced Narrowband Digital Voice Terminal (ANDVT).
- Received an **OUTSTANDING** grade in TOP SECRET control during a short-notice Navy Technical Proficiency Inspection (NTPI). No deficiencies were noted.
- Received an **EXCELLENT** grade in the handling of the Sealed Authentication System (SAS) Account during a short-notice NTPI.
- Satisfactorily completed a Cosmic Control Point Inspection.
- Satisfactorily completed a Communications Security Material System (CMS) inspection with no major deficiencies.

The Medical Department has continued to provide exemplary health care for shipboard personnel and the fourteen tended units of Submarine Squadron FOUR. Major improvements were made in patient care, preventive medicine and medical surveillance. Specific accomplishments this year include:

- Several department members received Letters of Appreciation and Commendation from the Commanding Officer for their highly professional and rapid response in the care of a civilian diver who was flown in from Florida for hyperbaric chamber treatments after being involved in a life-threatening diving accident.
- The Hearing and Heat Stress medical surveillance programs received outstanding grades during the recent Operational Propulsion Plant Examination.
- Several Medical Department personnel were recognized by the Commanding Officer and local community leaders for their contributions to the civilian community during Hurricane Hugo recovery. The contributions included helping community members remove debris and repair damage, handing out food, and providing emergency medical care with the local EMT units.
- Active participants in two shipwide Mass Casualty drills which enabled the medical department to further improve its stretcher bearer training and cut down dramatically on response time to an emergency situation.
- Continued to increase computer usage in the department. The addition of two more computers allowed the department to computerize the supply workcenter, the pharmacy, and the medical officer's appointment system, increasing our ability to monitor and provide rapid response to requests for information.
- Instituted a patient information hand-out display which provides pamphlets on different types of medical problems (i.e., herpes, knee injuries, breast exams etc.) which have increased patient knowledge.
- Conducted a weight loss clinic using a protein sparing liquid diet and teaching behavior modification. With twenty people involved in the group, we had a total weight loss of over 300 pounds over a six week period.

The Dental Department in 1989 continued its superior performance as the Navy's only 4.0 dental department. The department's pride, professional and cohesive teamwork was continuously displayed in the delivery of the highest quality dentistry to the fleet sailors. The department's excellence was reflective in its selection for the Dental Yellow "D", awarded to the top submarine tender dental department in the Atlantic Fleet.

Significant department accomplishments for 1989:

- The department's effective recall program resulted in the examination of 6300 patients and the comprehensive treatment of 3800 others.

- The department received the overall grade of satisfactory (highest obtainable grade) in the annual SUBLANT Dental Administrative Inspection, with outstanding ratings in Professional Services, Resource Utilization, Training and Safety.

- The department had a member selected as USS FRANK CABLE FY-89 "Sailor of the Year", which it has achieved the last three out of four years.

- The department effectively achieved an average dental readiness of over 95% for all tended units of Submarine Squadron Four prior to deployment.

- Department personnel were the recipients of numerous Letters of Commendation and Appreciation from the Commanding Officers, SUBRON Four and COMNAVBASE, citing professional achievement.

- Department actively participated in Command awareness program, sponsored Cable dependent awareness program, and actively supported an all-day sealant program for dependents.

- Department personnel volunteered over 190 hours of personal time for Hurricane "Hugo" relief efforts.

- The department initiated innovative programs maximizing the services of reservists and TAD dental officers, resulting in 217 additional patients being treated.

- The department conducted on going training programs for independent duty corpsman on diagnosis and management of dental emergencies, increasing the confidence and knowledge of the corpsman with clinical and didactic exposure.

The department maintains a Quality Assurance/Risk Management Program that is second to none, continuously striving to deliver quality of care under optimal conditions to all beneficiaries.

UNDERWAY 1989

MAR 89 PORTCALL

03 - 11 MAR 89

Port Canaveral

10 - 14 APR 89*

17 - 18 MAY 89*

20 - 21 NOV 89*

10 JUL - 21 NOV 89

5 month Docking Selected Restricted
Availability

28 NOV - 02 DEC 89*

06 - 08 DEC 89*

* UNDERWAY/NO PORT VISIT