



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
USS HARTFORD (SSN 768)
FPO AE 09573-2424

5750

Ser SSN768/263

01 DEC 2001

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From: Commanding Officer, USS HARTFORD (SSN 768)

To: Director of Naval History (N09BH)

Subj: COMMAND HISTORY

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12F

Encl: (1) Chronological History of USS HARTFORD (SSN 768)

1. In accordance with reference (a), enclosures (1) through (3) are submitted.

R. D. Kelso

R. D. KELSO

Command Composition and Organization

Mission: To locate and destroy surface ships and submarines, conduct strike warfare, reconnaissance, mine-planting, and special warfare operations.

Organizational Structure: Officers: 14
Enlisted: 124

Name of Commanding Officer: Robert D. Kelso, Commander, USN

Permanent Duty Station: Groton, Connecticut

CHRONOLOGICAL HISTORY OF
USS HARTFORD (SSN 768)
For Calendar Years 2001

03 JAN 01 Safely completed Christmas stand down.

09 JAN 01 Ship deployed to AUTEK to shoot exercise ADCAP torpedoes and to conduct sub vs. sub exercises.

19 JAN 01 Ship returned to Pier 31N NLON CT.

14 FEB 01 Ship deployed to Port Canaveral, Florida, and conducted a VIP cruise for various executives and friends of HARTFORD. Ship conducted sub vs. sub exercises in local operating areas.

26 FEB 01 Ship returned to Pier 32S NLON CT. Extensive upkeep began.

09 MAR 01 CDR Ferdinand J. Diemer was properly relieved as Commanding Officer, USS HARTFORD by CDR Robert D. Kelso at the Shepherd of the Sea Chapel, Groton, CT.

16 APR 01 Ship conducted a fast cruise for training.

23 APR 01 Ship deployed to local operating areas for Tactical Readiness Exam Team navigational assist and Engineering Readiness Review.

27 APR 01 Ship returned to Pier 10N NLON CT.

08 MAY 01 Ship deployed to local operating areas for sub vs. sub training.

18 MAY 01 Ship returned to Pier 32S NLON CT.

30 MAY 01 Ship deployed to Caribbean Sea for COMPTUEX with the USS THEODORE ROOSEVELT (CVN 71) Carrier Battle Group (CVBG). HARTFORD participated in numerous, coordinated exercises with multiple US warships and aircraft.

08 JUN 01 Arrived at Roosevelt Roads Naval Base, Puerto Rico for port call.

12 JUN 01 Ship departed Roosevelt Roads.

15 JUN 01 Ship conducted a BSP near St. Thomas Virgin Island to pick up the BGSIT team.

22 JUN 01 Arrived at Roosevelt Roads, Puerto Rico to drop off BGSIT team and perform ship's maintenance.

25 JUN 01 Departed Puerto Rico to complete COMPTUEX workup.

03 JUL 01 Ship returned to Pier 8N NLON CT and began POM II upkeep period. Ship conducted various jobs including a weapons load and equipment installations on the ship's periscope and communications systems.

23 JUL 01 Ship continues scheduled Pre-deployment Training period.

26 JUL 01 Ship participated in a waterfront Force Protection Anti-Terrorism exercise, in which the ship responded to numerous terrorist/security violation threat scenarios initiated by Submarine Squadron Four. Events were initiated for three days at random times to assess the submarine's readiness in port against viable terrorist and security threats.

28 JUL 01 Force Protection Exercise ended with a 100% recall of ship's force personnel.

01 AUG 01 Ship departed to commence JTFEX with USS THEODORE ROOSEVELT CVBG.

19 AUG 01 Arrived at Norfolk Naval Base, VA, Pier 23, Berth 5, for crew rest.

20 AUG 01 Departed from Norfolk, VA with the NPEB.

22 AUG 01 Ship completed ORSE. Ship returned to Pier 8N NLON CT.

19 SEP 01 Ship deployed to begin its 6-month Mediterranean/CENTCOM deployment with USS THEODORE ROOSEVELT CVBG.

02 OCT 01 Ship conducted INCHOP to Mediterranean (CTF 69) in Rota, Spain.

05 OCT 01 Arrived in La Maddalena, Italy, for upkeep and repairs. Moored alongside USS EMORY S LAND.

10 OCT 01 Departed from La Maddalena. Ship participated in Exercise Bright Star, a multi-national operation involving ships from the United States, France, Italy, Greece, and Egypt. Bright Star provided all participants with training in ASW, ASUW, Amphibious operations, and Special Warfare.

22 OCT 01 Ship completed Exercise Bright Star. Arrived in Souda Bay, Crete for crew liberty and repairs.

26 OCT 01 Ship departed Souda Bay en route the Suez Canal for transit into the CENTCOM AOR.

29 OCT 01 Ship transited through the Suez Canal with USS PETERSON, USNS SATURN, and USS VELLA GULF.

31 OCT 01 Ship began operations in the Northern Arabian Sea in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

01 DEC 01 Ship arrived in Bahrain for repairs and a stores load. DSE team arrived.

03 DEC 01 Ship departed from Bahrain to continue operations in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

Narrative

On 14 February 01, HARTFORD deployed to Florida to conduct training and drills. While in the Port Canaveral area, the ship conducted a BSP to pick up a group of VIPs. The VIP cruise gave the crew of the HARTFORD the opportunity to demonstrate their proficiency in ship handling, basic submarine routine and evolutions, and damage control. In addition, a demonstration of a simulated cruise missile strike was conducted. Upon her return to local operating areas, HARTFORD conducted sub vs. sub exercises with other U. S. submarines. HARTFORD returned to port on 26 February 01 to begin an extensive upkeep period.

On 09 March 01, CDR Ferdinand J. Diemer was properly relieved as Commanding Officer, USS HARTFORD by CDR Robert D. Kelso in a ceremony held at the Shepherd of the Sea Chapel, Groton, CT.

On 23 April 01, HARTFORD deployed to local operating areas for navigational and engineering training. The Tactical Readiness Examination Team provided valuable training for the crew. An Engineering Readiness Review was conducted to further ensure HARTFORD's readiness in propulsion plant operations and administration. HARTFORD deployed again on 08 May 01 to continue training in ASW operations. 30 May 01 marked the beginning of HARTFORD's COMPTUEX deployment with the USS THEODORE ROOSEVELT

(CVN 71) Carrier Battle Group. This one-month underway exercised the entire battle group's capabilities in both wartime and peacetime naval operations. HARTFORD returned to NLON CT on 03 July 01 to begin her pre-deployment POM II upkeep.

The crew of the HARTFORD spent the next few weeks training and preparing for a demanding, 6-month Battle Group Deployment. The scope of the training included lectures conducted at Naval Submarine School, Groton, and countless practical exercises held at various trainers and simulators on the Submarine Base. The focus for training was on peacetime ASW operations and intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance (ISR). On 01 August 01, HARTFORD deployed for JTFEX, and received her certification for CVBG operations. This wartime, scenario-based operation tested HARTFORD's capabilities in strike warfare, ASW ASUW and communications. The JTFEX deployment ended with an Operational Readiness Safeguards Exam conducted during the transit from the Norfolk Naval Submarine Base to Groton, CT.

On 19 September 01, HARTFORD deployed for a six-month, Mediterranean/CENTCOM deployment. HARTFORD picked up the INCHOP team in Rota, Spain. HARTFORD arrived in La Maddalena three days later for a five-day upkeep period. Following the brief upkeep period, HARTFORD deployed to the eastern Mediterranean to participate in Exercise Bright Star with the Egyptian Navy. Other participants included France, Italy, and Greece. HARTFORD

then returned to Souda Bay, Crete for repairs and crew liberty.

Following the five-day visit in Crete, the ship completed a transit through the Suez Canal as part of a convoy of four United States warships. Once through the Suez Canal, HARTFORD began operations in support of Operation Enduring Freedom in the CENTCOM AOR. She arrived in Bahrain on 01 December 01 for repairs and briefings from COMUSNAVCENT. On 03 December 01, HARTFORD deployed from Bahrain to continue operations in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

USS HARTFORD (SSN 768)

FPO AE 09573-2424

5750

Ser SSN768/100

27 Apr 01

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(2) Chronological History of USS HARTFORD (SSN 768)
(3) Narrative

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R. D. KELSO

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