



**DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY**

USS HARTFORD (SSN 768)

FPO AE 09573- 2424

5750

Ser SSN768/026

**11 FEB 2003**

From: Commanding Officer, USS HARTFORD (SSN 768)

To: Commander, Submarine Group TWO (01P)

Subj: COMMAND HISTORY

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12G

Encl: (1) Command Composition and Organization  
(2) Chronological History of USS HARTFORD (SSN 768)  
(3) Summary  
(4) Copy of Navy Unit Commendation  
(5) 3 1/2" Floppy Disk

1. In accordance with reference (a), enclosures (1) through (5) are submitted.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. D. Kelso".

R. D. KELSO

Command Composition and Organization  
USS HARTFORD (SSN 768) UIC 21806

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

Organizational Structure: Officers: 14  
Enlisted: 124

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

Permanent Duty Station: Groton, CT.

Immediate Senior Command: Submarine Squadron FOUR, Groton, CT.

CHRONOLOGICAL HISTORY OF  
USS HARTFORD (SSN 768)  
2002

- 01 JAN 02 New Year's Day. CTF 54 has Operational Control of USS HARTFORD.
- 27 JAN 02 Moored outboard HMS Trafalgar in Bahrain to load food and supplies.
- 30 JAN 02 Departed Bahrain to conduct operations in the North Arabian Sea.
- 12 FEB 02 Conducted BSP with USS Port Royal to embark RADM Enright, Commander, Submarine Group Seven/Commander Task Force Five Four for a VIP visit. Conducted EOD exercise coordinated by COMCARGRU 8.
- 14 FEB 02 Conducted BSP with USS Port Royal to debark RADM Enright
- 17 FEB 02 Arrived in Bahrain to conduct repairs.
- 25 FEB 02 Departed Bahrain to commence transit to Suez Canal.
- 07 MAR 02 Conducted Suez transit with the USS LEYTE GULF.
- 09 MAR 02 Conducted a BSP to embark RADM (SEL) Stanley, Commander, Submarine Group Eight, in Souda Bay, Crete.
- 11 MAR 02 Conducted a BSP in Augusta Bay to debark RADM (SEL) Stanley, Commander, Submarine Group Eight.
- 22 MAR 02 HARTFORD returned to homeport following a six-month Mediterranean/CENTCOM deployment. Moored at Pier 10S, NLON CT. Commenced post-deployment stand down.
- 22 APR 02 Completed post-deployment stand down. Commenced in-port training period, which consisted of ship control trainers, multiple attack centers, and shipboard training sessions.

Encl (2)

07 MAY 02 Ship deployed to the Puerto Rican Operating Areas to conduct Prospective Commanding Officer (PCO) Operations and training for a Tactical Readiness Evaluation (TRE). PCO Operations provided a group of Prospective Commanding Officers the opportunity to conduct ASUW/ASW in a simulated mini-war, shoot exercise torpedoes, and conduct simulated Tomahawk strikes.

18 MAY 02 Moored in Roosevelt Roads, Puerto Rico for a liberty call.

22 MAY 02 Departed Roosevelt Roads.

24 MAY 02 Conducted a BSP to debark the PCO class in Roosevelt Roads, Puerto Rico.

25 MAY 02 Moored in Roosevelt Roads, Puerto Rico to embark the TRE team.

28 MAY 02 Departed Roosevelt Roads to conduct a TRE. The TRE was an evaluation of the ship in the areas of damage control, ship handling and navigation, basic submarine operations, weapons handling and system operations, strike, and SONAR employment.

06 JUN 02 Returned to NLON CT. Commenced upkeep and sail preservation period. Ship installed a new navigation system.

18 JUL 02 Ship conducted a fast cruise to test all the ship's systems following an upkeep period, and conducted drills to exercise the crew in casualty response.

23 JUL 02 Ship departed NLON CT in order to train Submarine Officer Advanced Course (SOAC) students in navigation. Training consisted of piloting drills, man overboard procedures and anchoring.

24 JUL 02 Ship returned to NLON CT to debark SOAC students.

25 JUL 02 Ship deployed to AUTEK range to support a TRE for USS NEWPORT NEWS.

08 AUG 02 Moored at Port Canaveral, Florida, for a liberty call.

13 AUG 02 Ship departed Port Canaveral with a group of VIPs and Tigers. The Tiger Cruise allowed members of the crew to bring family members underway on the submarine and to indoctrinate them to life at sea aboard a deploying warship.

16 AUG 02 Ship returned to Pier 12S, NLON CT.

26 AUG 02 Ship deployed to the Caribbean Sea for COMPTUEX with the USS HARRY S TRUMAN (CVN 75) Carrier Battle Group (CVBG). HARTFORD participated in numerous, coordinated exercises with multiple US warships and aircraft.

03 SEP 02 Ship conducted a BSP at Roosevelt Roads Naval Base, Puerto Rico.

04 SEP 02 Ship conducted TACDEVEX with BAP ANTAFAGOSTA.

05 SEP 02 Ship conducted a BSP at Roosevelt Roads Naval Base, Puerto Rico.

11 SEP 02 Arrived Roosevelt Roads Naval Base, Puerto Rico for port call.

14 SEP 02 Ship departed Roosevelt Roads to complete COMPTUEX.

29 SEP 02 Ship conducted a BSP near Port Canaveral, FL for parts and supplies.

30 SEP 02 Ship conducted a BSP near Port Canaveral, FL to embark the NPEB for an Operational Reactor Safeguards Exam (ORSE).

02 OCT 02 Ship conducted a BSP near Norfolk Naval Base, Norfolk, VA to disembark the NPEB.

04 OCT 02 Ship returned to pier 8N NLON CT.

22 OCT 02 Ship departed NLON CT to train Submarine Officer Advanced Course (SOAC) students in navigation and piloting. Ship returned to Pier 8N NLON CT.

23 OCT 02 Ship departed NLON CT in order to train SOAC students in navigation and piloting. Ship

conducted a BSP near NLON CT to disembark SOAC students and embark team for monitoring metered trim dive.

24 OCT 02 Ship conducted metered trim dive in preparation for upcoming SRA. Ship returned to Pier 8N NLON CT.

25 OCT 02 Ship departed NLON CT to participate in JTFEX with the HARRY S TRUMAN (CVN 75) Carrier Battle Group.

08 NOV 02 Ship returned to Pier 12S NLON CT.

02 DEC 02 Ship departed NLON CT to perform a Tactical Readiness Review.

06 DEC 02 Ship returned to Pier 12N NLON CT.

21 DEC 02 Ship commenced a holiday stand down.

01 JAN 03 New Year's Day.

## Narrative

On 27 January 2002, HARTFORD returned to Bahrain to load food and supplies. She departed Bahrain on 30 January 02 in order to conduct operations in the North Arabian Sea.

On 17 February 2002, HARTFORD returned to Bahrain to conduct a voyage repair period. A fly away team from the USS EMORY S. LAND was on scene to assist. The ship departed the Arabian Gulf en route the Suez Canal on 25 February 2002. On 07 March 2002, the ship transited the Suez Canal with the USS LEYTE GULF as escort. During the outbound transit through the Mediterranean Sea, the ship embarked RADM Stanley, Commander, Submarine Group Eight, for two days.

HARTFORD returned to homeport following the six-month CENTCOM/Mediterranean deployment on 26 March 2002 and commenced a post-deployment stand down. The ship subsequently began training and working up for one-month of Prospective Commanding Officer Operations and a Tactical Readiness Evaluation. On 07 May 2002, the ship deployed to the Puerto Rican Operating Areas in support PCO Operations. PCO operations are designed to prepare and evaluate prospective commanding officers in the areas of tactics and war fighting. The training consisted of multiple exercise torpedo firings and strike exercises. Prior to returning to NLON CT, the ship was evaluated by the TRE team. The TRE evaluated the ship in the areas of damage control, ship handling and navigation, basic submarine operations, weapons handling and system operations, strike and SONAR employment.

HARTFORD spent the weeks following TRE in port training the crew at various attack centers, and in qualifying personnel in small arms to support the anti-terrorism and security requirements of the ship. The ship used most of June and July to prepare for a one-month underway in support of the USS NEWPORT NEWS' TRE and to embark dependents/family for a Tiger Cruise. The Tiger cruise provided the crew the opportunity to demonstrate proficiency in day-to-day submarine operations, and to indoctrinate their guests to life at sea.

HARTFORD departed NLON CT on 26 August 2002 to participate as a part of the opposing force for COMPTUEX with the USS HARRY S TRUMAN (CVN 75) Carrier Battle Group (CVBG). HARTFORD participated in numerous, coordinated exercises with multiple US warships and aircraft. During COMPTUEX, HARTFORD conducted a TACDEVEX with BAP ANTAFAGOSTA and visited Roosevelt Roads Naval Base, Puerto Rico from 11 to 14 September 2002. Prior to returning to NLON CT, the ship was evaluated by the NPEB. The ORSE evaluated the ship in all facets of safe operation of a nuclear reactor and its associated systems.

Encl (3)

HARTFORD spent the time following ORSE training the crew for the upcoming SRA and qualifying personnel in small arms to support the security requirements of the ship. The ship conducted multiple underways, landings and a BSP to support training Submarine Officer Advanced Course (SOAC) students in navigation and piloting from 22 to 23 October 2002.

HARTFORD departed on 25 October to participate as part of the opposing force for JTFEX with the HARRY S TRUMAN (CVN 75) Carrier Battle Group (CVBG). HARTFORD returned to homeport on 08 November 2002.

HARTFORD conducted a Tactical Readiness Review from 02 to 06 December 2002. Upon return to homeport, HARTFORD continued to make preparations for drydocking. On 21 December 2002 HARTFORD commenced a Holiday stand down that continued into 2003.