



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

USS HENRY M. JACKSON (SSBN 730)

FLEET POST OFFICE

AP 96698-2106

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5750

Ser 730B/001

10 Jan 98

From: Commanding Officer, USS HENRY M. JACKSON (SSBN 730) (BLUE)
To: Director of Naval History (N09BH), Naval Historical Center, Washington Naval Yard,
901 M Street SE, Bldg 57, Washington, DC 20374-5060

Subj: COMMAND HISTORY FOR USS HENRY M. JACKSON (SSBN 730) (BLUE)

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12F

Encl: (1) Command Composition and Organization
(2) Chronology
(3) Narrative
(4) Supporting Documents

1. Enclosures (1) through (4) are submitted in accordance with reference (a).

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USS HENRY M. JACKSON (SSBN 730 BLUE)

COMMAND COMPOSITION AND ORGANIZATION

MISSION: To conduct submerged undetected patrols, maintaining the ship in the highest state of readiness in order to launch strategic missiles for the purpose of deterrence or attainment of national military objectives.

ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE:

Commanding Officer

Executive Officer

Executive Dept	Nav/Ops Dept	Weapons Dept	Engineering Dept	Supply Dept
Chief of the Boat	Strategic Navigation	Strategic Weapons	Machinery	Stores
Yeoman	Navigation	Deck	Electrical	Food Service
Medical	Radio	Fire Control	Reactor Controls	
	Interior Communications	Torpedo	Chemistry and Radiological Controls	
		Sonar	Auxiliary	
		Data Systems		

IMMEDIATE SUPERIOR IN COMMAND: COMSUBRON 17
COMMANDING OFFICER: D. D. MERICLE, CAPT, USN
HOMEPORT: Bangor, Washington

**USS HENRY M. JACKSON (SSBN 730) (BLUE)
CHRONOLOGY (1997)**

01 JAN - 28 MAR	Offcrew Training Period 43
03 APR	Exchange of Command, Blue Crew relieves Gold Crew
04 APR	Commenced Refit 43
05 MAY	Ship departed on Patrol 43
03 JUN	Inport Pearl Harbor, HI
11 - 13 JUN	Tactical Readiness Evaluation (TRE)
13 - 16 JUN	Inport Pearl Harbor, HI
10 - 11 JUL	Defense Nuclear Surety Inspection (DNSI)
11 JUL	End of Patrol 43
13 JUL	Exchange of Command, Gold Crew relieves Blue Crew Augmenting Naval Technical Proficiency Inspection (ANTPI)
17 JUL - 02 SEP	Refit Assist/Standdown Period
03 SEP	Offcrew Training Period 45
28 OCT	Exchange of Command, Blue Crew relieves Gold Crew
29 OCT	Commenced Refit 45
02 DEC	Ship departed on Patrol 45
09 - 11 DEC	NAVSEA Acoustic Trials
15 - 18 DEC	Underway Material Inspection (UMI)
17 - 26 DEC	Inport Bangor, WA

**USS HENRY M. JACKSON (SSBN 730 BLUE)
NARRATIVE (1997)**

- * In April 1997, the Blue crew completed an intense Refit supporting 30,000 man-hours of Trident Refit Facility (TRF), Bangor maintenance.
- * During Patrol 43, the ship responded successfully and without errors to four Weapons Systems Readiness Tests, two Retargeting exercises, and conducted a KiloEX with an attack submarine.
- * The Blue crew completed a successful TRE in June 1997, highlighted by an ABOVE AVERAGE grade and was designated as a TRE Top Performer by the type commander.
- * At the end of Patrol 43, the Blue crew conducted a successful NTPI. The command received grades of EXCELLENT in six areas and OUTSTANDING in the remaining four areas.
- * The Blue Crew completed Patrol 43 with 100 percent Navigation Subsystem and Strategic Weapons readiness.
- * Blue crew commenced a complex drydocking period during October. Over 100,000 man-hours of TRF and PSNS work was completed.
- * As a result of the UMI, 479 material discrepancies were discovered. The JACKSON was commended as being in the best material condition of the four other Trident submarines inspected in 1997.
- In summary, the command received the following awards for 1997:
 1. Battle Efficiency "E"
 2. Supply Blue "E"
 3. Navigation Red and Green "N"
 4. Communications Green "C"



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

USS HENRY M. JACKSON (SSBN 730)
FPO AP 96698-2107

*Rec'd 6/2/98
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5750
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27 May 98

From: Commanding Officer, USS HENRY M. JACKSON (SSBN 730) (GOLD)
To: Director of Naval History (N09BH), Washington Navy Yard,
901 M Street SE, Bldg 57, Washington, DC 20374-5060

Subj: 1997 COMMAND HISTORY FOR USS HENRY M. JACKSON
(SSBN 730) (GOLD)

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12F

Encl: (1) Command Composition and Organization
(2) Chronology and Narrative
(3) Ship's Photo
(4) Commanding Officer's Biography and Photo
(5) Welcome Aboard Pamphlet
(6) Article from the TRIDENT Tides, 23 Jan 98 Edition
(7) Diskette, containing enclosures (1), (2), (4) and (6)

1. Per reference (a), enclosures (1) through (7) are submitted.


F. W. STEWART

COMMAND COMPOSITION AND ORGANIZATION
USS HENRY M. JACKSON (SSBN 730)

Characteristics

Length Overall: 560 feet	Submerged Displacement: 18,700 tons
Maximum Beam: 42 feet	Missile tubes: 24
Navigational Draft: 36 feet	Torpedo tubes: 4
Speed: >25 kts	Complement: 146 enlisted 16 officers
Keel laid: 19 Jan 81	Launched: 15 Oct 83
Commissioned: 6 Oct 84	Homeport: Bangor, WA

The USS HENRY M. JACKSON (SSBN 730) is the fifth powerful ship in the OHIO TRIDENT submarine class. The ship is named after the late United States Senator Henry M. Jackson, a proponent of the TRIDENT submarine program. THE HENRY M. JACKSON was built at General Dynamics Electric Boat Division in Groton, CT. Following new construction, the ship successfully completed sea trials and demonstration/shakedown operations (DASO) in Florida. The ship transited through the Panama Canal to its current homeport of Bangor, WA, arriving in June 1985.

TRIDENT submarines are undersea intercontinental ballistic missile launching platforms whose primary mission is strategic nuclear deterrence. The submarine is under the operational control of Commander, Submarine Squadron 17 and Commander Submarine Group 9 while inport and under the control of Commander Submarine Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet and the United States Strategic Command while deployed at sea.

The ship has completed 45 strategic deterrent patrols to date and has participated in successful operational tests of the TRIDENT I Missile System.

Enclosure (1)

USS HENRY M. JACKSON (SSBN 730) (GOLD)
CHRONOLOGY AND NARRATIVE

28 MAR 97 Inport SUBASE Bangor, WA, Patrol 42 Complete
31 MAR 97 Exchange of Command, Gold Crew relieved by Blue Crew
4 APR 97 Gold Crew commenced refit assist
12 MAY 97 Off-crew training period for Patrol 44
3 JUL 97 Completion of training period
13 JUL 97 Exchange of Command, Blue Crew relieved by Gold Crew
14 JUL 97 Gold Crew commenced refit period
14 AUG 97 Underway, commence Patrol 44
21 OCT 97 Operations in Eastern Pacific Ocean which
included: Operational Reactor Safeguards
Examination (ORSE) and Logistics Readiness
Evaluation (LRE)
25 OCT 97 Inport SUBASE Bangor, WA, Patrol 44 complete,
conducted Navy Technical Proficiency Inspection
(NTPI)
28 OCT 97 Exchange of Command, Gold Crew relieved by Blue Crew
1 NOV 97 Gold Crew commenced refit assist
1 DEC 97 Off-crew training period for Extended Refit Period
(ERP)
6 FEB 98 Completion of training period
11 FEB 98 Exchange of Command, Blue Crew relieved by Gold Crew
25 FEB 98 Gold Crew commenced Extended Refit Period (ERP)

Received the Battle Efficiency "E" Award for the second consecutive year as the most outstanding ship in Submarine Squadron 17. Received the Tactical Operations "T" Award for superior performance of the tactical mission and the Communication "C" Award for excellence in submarine communications.

USS HENRY M. JACKSON (SSBN 730) (GOLD)

The following article by JOC [REDACTED] appeared in the January 23, 1998 edition of the TRIDENT Tides:

"JACKSON TAKES BATTLE "E" FOR 2ND YEAR"

Command climate, communication, teamwork. Ask crewman aboard the USS HENRY M. JACKSON (SSBN 730) how they did the near impossible by winning their second consecutive Battle Efficiency earlier this month and one of these concepts will likely come up.

SN(SS) [REDACTED] of JACKSON's GOLD Crew credits the Battle "E" to the crew's teamwork and open line of communication.

Everybody gets along well," he said. "There's a lot of cohesiveness. When people aren't afraid to have an idea or express how they feel, they're gonna' speak up. If somebody's wrong, they're gonna' correct him with no fear or reprisal."

MMCS(SS) Terry Hren, JACKSON GOLD Chief of the Boat, agreed. "I think a lot of it has to do with command climate--the way the guys are treated," Hren said. "I think everybody feels they have a say on board. Their voice is heard, and I think that goes a long way. They're made to feel part of a team vice just another number."

"It was a culmination of a year of hard work by both crews on the ship," said CAPT Frank Stewart, Commanding Officer of JACKSON's GOLD Crew. "I guess that when it was all said and done, we managed to emerge victorious once again as the most battle-ready ship on the waterfront. But, that's a razor-thin margin, I assure you."

While Navy ships and shore commands continuously prepare for inspections, Stewart said it's not so for the Battle "E."

"You don't prepare for the Battle "E," he said, "You prepare to go down there and do your job the best way you know how. I think there are ships and crews that did better in selected areas than JACKSON did. But when you put it all together, we had a pretty solid performance across the board. That's the measure of the Battle "E." It's everybody pulling together to do their job."

"It was a year ago that the crew was first awarded the Battle Efficiency that I stood out in front of the crew and said, "The challenge now is to repeat. You have to raise your game higher because everybody is aiming for you because you're the target." Fortunately for us, we managed to pick up the game high enough to clear the bar again."

Stierwalt spoke of a possible "three peat."

"Nobody thought we would win two years in a row," he said. "And when we did, it was just unbelievable. Now were trying to go for three years. That would be unprecedented for a boat."