



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
USS HOUSTON (SSN 713)
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From: Commanding Officer, USS HOUSTON (SSN 713)
To: Director of Naval History (N09BH), Naval Historical
Center, Washington, D.C. 20374-5060

1999

Subj: 1999 ANNUAL COMMAND HISTORY

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12F

Encl: (1) Command Composition and Organization
(2) Command Chronology
(3) Command Narrative and Commanding Officer's Biography
(4) Supporting Documents

1. Per reference (a), enclosures (1) through (4) are submitted.

DP Mack

D. P. MACK

COMMAND COMPOSITION AND ORGANIZATION

1. **USS HOUSTON'S mission:** USS HOUSTON (SSN 713) is a Los Angeles Class nuclear powered fast attack submarine that was designed primarily as a high speed escort for carrier task forces. She supports national military objectives with the ability to carry the fight to the enemy at sea or on land with torpedoes and cruise missiles. Because of her stealth, HOUSTON is the ideal platform for such missions as Anti-Submarine Warfare, Anti-Surface Warfare, Strike Warfare, Mine Warfare, Special Forces Operations, Intelligence Gathering, and Search and Rescue.

2. **Organization structure:** USS HOUSTON (SSN 713) is one of six nuclear powered submarines attached to Submarine Squadron ELEVEN, homeported in San Diego, California. USS HOUSTON's Immediate Senior in Command (ISIC) is Commander, Submarine Squadron Eleven.

2. **Commanding Officer profile:** USS HOUSTON (SSN 713) is commanded by Michael A. Zieser, Commander, USN. Commander Zieser, a native of [REDACTED], graduated from the United States Naval Academy in 1980. He relieved as the Commanding Officer of USS HOUSTON (SSN 713) on 30 January 1998.

USS HOUSTON (SSN 713)
COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

1999

01JAN – 04 JAN	INPORT SAN DIEGO, CA; HOLIDAY STANDOWN
04 JAN – 9 FEB	INPORT SAN DIEGO, CA; FMAV WITH USS MCKEE
9 FEB – 12 FEB	UNDERWAY FOR LOCAL OPERATIONS; COMPLETED SEATRIALS AND TOMA.
12 FEB	UNDERWAY FOR LOCAL OPERATIONS; CONDUCTED A VIP CRUISE FOR A CONGRESSIONAL STAFF DELEGATION
12 FEB – 19 FEB	INPORT SAN DIEGO, CA
19 FEB – 25 FEB	UNDERWAY FOR LOCAL OPERATIONS; PARTICPATED IN COMPOSITE UNIT EXERCISE (COMPTUEX) 99-1 WITH THE CONSTELLATION BATTLE GROUP
25 FEB – 29 MAR	INPORT SAN DIEGO, CA; SCHEDULED PRESERVATION UPKEEP COORDINATED EFFORT (SPRUCE)
29 MAR – 01 APR	UNDERWAY FOR LOCAL OPERATIONS; BURIAL AT SEA FOR EMC BURT LANCASTER, USN RETIRED
01 APR – 06 MAY	INPORT SAN DIEGO, CA; SHIP'S FORCE UPKEEP
06 MAY – 07 MAY	UNDERWAY FOR LOCAL OPERATIONS
07 MAY – 10 MAY	INPORT SAN DIEGO, CA
10 MAY – 14 MAY	INPORT SAN DIEGO, CA; TACTICAL WEAPONS TRAINING, CERTIFICATION AND PROFICIENCY (TWTCP) - PHASE I
14 MAY – 17 MAY	INPORT SAN DIEGO, CA
17 MAY	UNDERWAY FOR LOCAL OPERATIONS; VIP CRUISE FOR CINCPACFLT AND GUESTS
17 MAY – 21 MAY	UNDERWAY FOR LOCAL OPERATIONS
21 MAY – 24 MAY	INPORT SAN DIEGO, CA
24 MAY	UNDERWAY FOR LOCAL OPERATIONS; CONDUCTED A VIP CRUISE FOR THE OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS DELEGATION
24 MAY – 25 MAY	INPORT SAN DIEGO, CA
25 MAY – 10 JUN	UNDERWAY FOR LOCAL OPERATIONS
10 JUN – 14 JUN	INPORT SAN DIEGO, CA

14 JUN – 18 JUN	INPORT SAN DIEGO, CA; TACTICAL WEAPONS TRAINING, CERTIFICATION AND PROFICIENCY (TWTCP) - PHASE I
18 JUN – 21 JUN	INPORT SAN DIEGO, CA
21 JUN – 02 JUL	UNDERWAY FOR LOCAL OPERATIONS; TWTCP - PHASE II
02 JUL – 06 JUL	INPORT SAN DIEGO, CA
06 JUL - 09 JUL	TRANSIT TO ESQUIMALT, CANADA
09 JUL – 13 JUL	INPORT ESQUIMALT, CANADA
13 JUL – 16 JUL	TRANSIT TO SAN DIEGO
16 JUL – 19 JUL	INPORT SAN DIEGO, CA
19 JUL – 23 JUL	UNDERWAY FOR LOCAL OPERATIONS; MIDSHIPMEN OPERATIONS
23 JUL – 26 JUL	INPORT SAN DIEGO, CA
26 JUL	UNDERWAY FOR LOCAL OPERATIONS; DEPENDENTS CRUISE
26 JUL -- 27 JUL	INPORT SAN DIEGO, CA
27 JUL	UNDERWAY FOR LOCAL OPERATIONS; DEPENDENTS CRUISE
27 JUL -- 28 JUL	INPORT SAN DIEGO, CA
28 JUL – 04 AUG	UNDERWAY FOR LOCAL OPERATIONS
04 AUG – 09 SEP	INPORT SAN DIEGO, CA; SHIP'S FORCE UPKEEP
09 SEP – 10 SEP	UNDERWAY FOR LOCAL OPERATIONS
10 SEP – 17 SEP	INPORT SAN DIEGO, CA
17 SEP – 23 SEP	UNDERWAY FOR LOCAL OPERATIONS
23 SEP – 24 SEP	INPORT SAN DIEGO, CA
24 SEP	UNDERWAY FOR LOCAL OPERATIONS; VIP CRUISE FOR GUESTS FROM THE CITY OF HOUSTON
24 SEP – 27 SEP	INPORT SAN DIEGO, CA
27 SEP – 29 SEP	UNDERWAY FOR LOCAL OPERATIONS
29 SEP – 30 SEP	UNDERWAY FOR LOCAL OPERATIONS; COMPLETED OPERATIONAL REACTOR SAFEGUARDS EXAMINATION (ORSE)
30 SEP – 03 OCT	INPORT SAN DIEGO, CA
03 OCT – 13 OCT	TRANSIT TO PEARL HARBOR, HI; SPECIAL OPERATIONS

13 OCT – 18 OCT	INPORT PEARL HARBOR, HI
18 OCT – 23 OCT	TRANSIT TO SAN DIEGO, CA
23 OCT – 01 NOV	INPORT SAN DIEGO, CA
01 NOV – 15 NOV	INPORT SAN DIEGO, CA; COMBAT SYSTEMS READINESS REVIEW (CSRR)
15 NOV – 18 NOV	UNDERWAY FOR LOCAL OPERATIONS
18 NOV – 15 DEC	INPORT SAN DIEGO, CA; FMAV
15 DEC – 16 DEC	UNDERWAY FOR LOCAL OPERATIONS
16 DEC – 31 DEC	INPORT SAN DIEGO, CA; HOLIDAY STANDOWN

USS HOUSTON (SSN 713)

COMMAND NARRATIVE

1999

9 FEB – 12 FEB TECHNICAL ON-BOARD MONITORING ASSIST (TOMA) – An acoustic monitoring test used to improve self monitoring to maintain acoustic profile between regularly scheduled acoustic trails. Objectives were to assess radiated and self-noise signatures, train ship's force in data acquisition and analysis, to identify and correct acoustic degradations, and to meet routine preventive maintenance requirements.

12 FEB VIP CRUISE – Completed a VIP Cruise for a Congressional Staff Delegation. Officials included 10 Chiefs of Staff and Military Legislative Assistants to Congressmen of the U.S. House of Representatives.

19 FEB – 25 FEB COMPTUEX 99-1 – Composite Unit Exercise 99-1, a training period consisting of numerous exercises of varying complexity, scheduled as a work-up for the CONSTELLATION BATTLE GROUP. HOUSTON participated as an opposing force exercising ship control and practicing shallow water operations.

2 MAR – 21 MAR SCHEDULED PRESERVATION UPKEEP COORDINATED EFFORT (SPRUCE) – Accomplished every two years, this dedicated event completely preserved major spaces throughout the ship ensuring maximum material readiness. Advanced and thorough planning yielded superior results.

10 MAY – 14 MAY TACTICAL WEAPONS TRAINING, CERTIFICATION AND PROFICIENCY (TWTCP) - PHASE I – Inport training period during which the ship receives refresher training on tactical warfare and improves proficiency in employing tactical weapons through classroom lectures and attack center trainers at Naval Submarine Training Center Pacific Detachment San Diego, CA.

17 MAY VIP CRUISE FOR CINCPACFLT AND GUESTS – Commander in Chief, U.S. Pacific Fleet, ADM Archie Clemens and 30 middle school students from Central Illinois embarked for a one day cruise.

24 MAY VIP CRUISE – Completed a VIP Cruise for guests from the Office of Legislative Affairs. Officials included 11 congressional staffers.

14 JUN – 18 JUN TWTCP - PHASE I – Continuation of training from 10-14 May.

21 JUN – 02 JUL TWTCP - PHASE II – Demonstrated the full range of tactical warfare capabilities during an underway TWTCP Evaluation. HOUSTON demonstrated proficiency in employing all tactical weapons against simulated hostile surface and submarine targets.

19 JUL – 23 JUL MIDSHIPMEN OPERATIONS – Embarked over 80 midshipmen from Naval Reserve Officer Training (NROTC) Units across the United States for submarine indoctrination during Career Orientation and Training Cruises (CORTRAMID).

26 JUL – 27 JUL DEPENDENTS CRUISES – Completed two one-day cruises for HOUSTON crewmembers family and friends. During these two cruises, the ship embarked over 120 guests.

24 SEP VIP CRUISE – Completed a VIP Cruise for guests from the city of Houston. 24 Officials embarked included prominent businessmen and women from Houston, Reporters and photographers from local Houston Newspapers and radio stations, as well as a representative from the Texas House of Representatives and Mrs. Karen McMullen from the Office of the Mayor of Houston.

29 SEP – 30 SEP OPERATIONAL REACTOR SAFEGUARDS EXAMINATION – A two day administrative review of engineering documents, personnel interviews and monitoring drill and evolution performance. Evaluated as Average during this comprehensive exam administered under the supervision of Naval Reactors.

03 OCT – 13 OCT SPECIAL OPERATIONS – Completed special operations under the tactical command of Commander Task Group FOURTEEN PT TWO (COMSUPAC) in the Eastern Pacific Ocean.

01 NOV – 12 NOV COMBAT SYSTEMS READINESS REVIEW (CSRR) – An extensive operational inspection of all fire control systems to ensure 100% reliability. This inspection is conducted by ship's force and monitored by certified civilian technicians.