



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
USS HOUSTON (SSN 713)
FPO AP 96667-2393

*Rec'd 5/36/02
w/o disk*

5750
Ser 13.027/054
22 Feb 02

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

Subj: 2001 ANNUAL COMMAND HISTORY

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12G

Encl: (1) Command Composition and Organization
(2) Command Chronology
(3) Narrative
(4) Supporting Documents
(5) Electronic Copy of 2001 Annual Command History
(3.5 Inch Floppy Disk)

1. Enclosures (1) through (5) are submitted in accordance
with reference (a).

D P Mack
D. P. MACK

USS HOUSTON (SSN-713)
UIC 20994
COMMAND COMPOSITION AND ORGANIZATION

1. **USS HOUSTON'S MISSION:** USS HOUSTON (SSN-713) is a Los Angeles class, nuclear powered, fast-attack, hunter-killer submarine. HOUSTON was designed primarily as a high-speed submarine escort for carrier battle groups and task forces. She supports national military objectives with the ability to carry the fight to a hostile force on land or at-sea with MK-48 ADCAP Torpedoes, Tomahawk Anti-Ship Missiles, and Tomahawk Land Attack Missiles. Because of her stealth, HOUSTON is an ideal platform for conducting missions such as Undersea Warfare, Anti-Surface Warfare, Strike Warfare, Mine Warfare, Special Forces Operations, Intelligence Gathering, and Combat Search And Rescue.

2. **ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE:** USS HOUSTON (SSN-713) is conducting an Engineered Refueling Overhaul (ERO) at Puget Sound Naval Shipyard, Bremerton, Washington. USS HOUSTON's immediate senior in command (ISIC) is Commander, Submarine Group Nine, headquartered at Naval Submarine Base, Bangor, Washington.

3. **COMMANDING OFFICER PROFILE:** USS HOUSTON (SSN-713) is commanded by Daniel P. Mack, Commander, United States Navy. Commander Mack, a native of [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] graduated from the United States Naval Academy in 1982. He relieved as Commanding Officer of USS HOUSTON on 21 January 2000.

USS HOUSTON (SSN 713)

COMMAND CHRONOLOGY 2001

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| 01JAN01 – 04JAN01 | INPORT, SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA. HOLIDAY STAND DOWN |
| 04JAN01 - 22FEB01 | INPORT, SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA. SHIP'S FORCE UPKEEP, PRE-OVERHAUL TESTING, AND TYPE COMMANDER TRAINING |
| 22FEB01 – 01MAR01 | UNDERWAY FOR LOCAL OPERATIONS. CARRIER BATTLE GROUP OPERATIONS AND DEPLOYMENT WORK-UP |
| 01MAR01 – 05MAR01 | INPORT, SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA. TYPE COMMANDER TRAINING AND MAINTENANCE |
| 05MAR01 – 09MAR01 | UNDERWAY FOR LOCAL OPERATIONS. PROVIDING PRE-OVERSEAS MOVEMENT SERVICES |
| 09MAR01 – 30MAR01 | INPORT, SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA. NUCLEAR WEAPONS ACCEPTANCE INSPECTION (NWI) PREPARATIONS |
| 30MAR01 - 03APR01 | UNDERWAY, TRANSITING TO NAVAL SUBMARINE BASE, BANGOR, WASHINGTON. NUCLEAR WEAPONS ACCEPTANCE INSPECTION (NWI) PREPARATIONS AND WORK-UP |
| 03APR01 - 12APR01 | INPORT, NAVAL SUBMARINE BASE, BANGOR, WASHINGTON. CONDUCTING NUCLEAR WEAPONS ACCEPTANCE INSPECTION (NWI) AND ONLOADING EXERCISE TOMAHAWK MISSILES |
| 12APR01 - 20APR01 | UNDERWAY, TRANSITING TO SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA. CONDUCTING TOMAHAWK MISSILE TESTING AND NUCLEAR WEAPONS REGENERATION EXERCISE |
| 20APR01 – 03MAY01 | INPORT, SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA. SHIP'S FORCE UPKEEP. CONDUCTING DUAL MEDIA DISCHARGE TRAINING AND DRY-DOCKING PREPARTIONS |
| 03MAY01 | UNDERWAY FOR DRY-DOCKING EVOLUTION. |
| 03MAY01 – 07JUN01 | INPORT, SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA. RESTING ON KEEL BLOCKS IN USS ARCO (ARDM-5) FOR PAINTING, PRESERVATION, AND DUAL MEDIA DISCHARGE |
| 07JUN01 | UNDERWAY FOR UNDOCKING EVOLUTION. |
| 07JUN01 – 15JUN01 | INPORT, SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA. INPORT TYPE COMMANDER TRAINING |
| 15JUN01 | UNDERWAY FOR BERTH SHIFT. |
| 15JUN01 - 19JUN01 | INPORT, SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA. |

INPORT TYPE COMMANDER TRAINING

19JUN01 – 25JUN01 UNDERWAY, TRANSITING TO NANOOSE, BRITISH COLOMBIA.
CONDUCTING UNMANNED UNDERWATER VEHICLE TESTING AND
MIDSHIPMAN OPERATIONS AND TRAINING

26JUN01 – 30JUN01 UNDERWAY DAILY FROM NANOOSE, BRITISH COLUMBIA.
PROVIDING TARGET SERVICES FOR ADVANCED TORPEDO TRIALS
AND TESTING IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE ROYAL CANADIAN
NAVY

30JUN01 UNDERWAY, TRANSITING TO NAVAL SUBMARINE BASE, BANGOR,
WASHINGTON.

30JUN01 – 10JUL01 INPORT, NAVAL SUBMARINE BASE BANGOR, WASHINGTON.
INPORT TYPE COMMANDER TRAINING AND VOYAGE REPAIRS

10JUL01 – 13JUL01 UNDERWAY, TRANSITING TO SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA.
MIDSHIPMAN OPERATIONS AND TRAINING

13JUL01 – 16JUL01 INPORT, SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA.
INPORT TYPE COMMANDER TRAINING AND MAINTENCE

16JUL01 – 19JUL01 UNDERWAY FOR LOCAL OPERATIONS.
MIDSHIPMAN OPERATIONS AND TRAINING

19JUL01 – 20JUL01 INPORT, SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA.

20 JUL01 UNDERWAY FOR LOCAL OPERATIONS.
COMPLETED DEPENDANT'S CRUISE FOR 23 GUESTS

21JUL01 UNDERWAY FOR LOCAL OPERATIONS.
COMPLETED DEPENDANT'S CRUISE FOR 21 GUESTS

21JUL01 – 22JUL01 INPORT, SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA.

22JUL01 – 26JUL01 UNDERWAY FOR LOCAL OPERATIONS.
MIDSHIPMAN OPERATIONS AND TRAINING

26JUL01 – 27JUL01 INPORT, SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA.

27JUL01 UNDERWAY FOR LOCAL OPERATIONS.
MIDSHIPMAN OPERATIONS AND TRAINING

27JUL01 – 31JUL01 INPORT, SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA.
TYPE COMMANDER TRAINING AND MAINTENANCE

31JUL01 – 03AUG01 UNDERWAY FOR LOCAL OPERATIONS.
COMPLETED VIP CRUISE FOR 22 GUESTS
ANCHORED OVERNIGHT IN SAN DIEGO BAY
COMPLETED VIP CRUISE FOR 25 GUESTS

03AUG01 – 04AUG01 UNDERWAY FOR LOCAL OPERATIONS.
PROVIDING PRE-OVERSEAS MOVEMENT SERVICES AND RADIATED
NOISE SURVEYS

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| 04AUG01 – 27AUG01 | INPORT, SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA. SHIP'S FORCE UPKEEP. CONDUCTING PREPARTIONS FOR CHANGE OF HOMEPORT TO BREMERTON, WASHINGTON |
| 27AUG01 – 31AUG01 | UNDERWAY, TRANSITING TO BREMERTON, WASHINGTON. COMPLETED TIGER CRUISE FOR 10 GUESTS |
| 31AUG01 – 18SEP01 | INPORT, NAVAL STATION, BREMERTON, WASHINGTON. TYPE COMMANDER TRAINING, SHIP OFFLOAD, AND PREPARATIONS FOR DRY-DOCKING |
| 18SEP01 | UNDERWAY FOR DRY-DOCKING EVOLUTION. |
| 18SEP01 – 21DEC01 | INPORT, PUGET SOUND NAVAL SHIPYARD, BREMERTON, WASHINGTON. RESTING ON KEEL BLOCKS IN DRYDOCK ONE, CONDUCTING ENGINEERED REFUELING OVERHAUL (ERO) |
| 21DEC01 – 31DEC01 | INPORT, PUGET SOUND NAVAL SHIPYARD, BREMERTON, WASHINGTON. HOLIDAY STAND DOWN |

USS HOUSTON (SSN 713)

COMMAND NARRATIVE 2001

- 04JAN01 - 22FEB01 SHIP'S FORCE UPKEEP, PRE-OVERHAUL TESTING – Completed comprehensive testing of the ship's major systems to support planning efforts for the Engineered Refueling Overhaul scheduled to begin 01 October 2001.
- 22FEB01 – 01MAR01 CARRIER BATTLE GROUP OPERATIONS – HOUSTON provided hostile force simulations for the USS CARL VINSON (CVN 74) battle group during their pre-deployment Joint Task Force Exercise. This exercise incorporated all of the Air, Surface, and Submarine Assets assigned to the battle group and served as their certification for a Western Pacific Deployment.
- 22FEB01 - 01MAR01 PRE-OVERHAUL TESTING AND SHIPCHECK - During this at-sea period, Greg Wolfe, of Puget Sound Naval Shipyard, coordinated the efforts of 11 senior technicians and engineers and conducted underway inspections and pre-overhaul tests in support of the Engineered Refueling Overhaul.
- 09MAR01 – 12APR01 NUCLEAR WEAPONS REGENERATION EXERCISE – The purpose of the regeneration exercise is to demonstrate the submarine force capability to load out selected submarines with nuclear capable Tomahawk Land Attack Missiles upon direction by the National Command Authority. An intensive training period focused on security procedures, technical operations, and administrative record reviews. The regeneration exercise culminates in a Nuclear Weapons Acceptance Inspection and subsequent launch of instrumented test missiles.
- Note: During the Transit from San Diego to Naval Submarine Base Bangor, the ship experienced failure of an instrument critical to safe operation of the nuclear reactor plant. Experts from Puget Sound Naval Shipyard assisted Ship's Force in the timely repair to this vital component. The instrument was replaced after 12 days and the ship was able to continue its assigned mission with minimal delay.
- 12APR01 - 20APR01 TOMAHAWK TESTING - Three Tomahawk Operational Test Launches were completed satisfactorily and satisfied the requirements of the Regeneration Exercise. RDML Griffiths, Commander Submarine Group Nine, embarked upon departure from Bangor to observe.
- 03MAY01 – 07JUN01 DUAL MEDIA DISCHARGE – Complex nuclear propulsion plant procedure in which the primary reactor coolant filtering media is replaced.
- 19JUN01 – 25JUN01 UNMANNED UNDERWATER VEHICLE TESTING – Submarine Development Squadron Five manages the development of the Unmanned Underwater Vehicles program. These vehicles provide the submarine with an off-hull, autonomous sensor capable of multiple missions including mine detection, intelligence gathering, and oceanographic survey. USS HOUSTON conducted the first successful operational launch of this vehicle. LCDR ██████████ ██████████, of DEVRON FIVE, DET SIERRA was embarked for technical assistance.
- 26JUN01 – 30JUN01 TORPEDO TRIALS - HOUSTON provided target services to the CFMETR acoustic range operated jointly by Canadian and American Forces. The crew conducted four days of acoustic trials during which the performance of experimental torpedo designs were evaluated. Larry Sinnock of the Naval Undersea Warfare Center Keyport was embarked as the Test Director.

10JUL01 – 27JUL01 MIDSHIPMAN OPERATIONS AND TRAINING – One Hundred and Nine (109) Midshipmen from the United States Naval Academy and various ROTC Universities were embarked for submarine orientation cruises. Through this excellent training opportunity, the Midshipmen were able to see the capabilities of the ship and the benefits available to them through a career in the submarine force.

20 JUL01 DEPENDANT’S CRUISE – The ship embarked 23 friends and family members during this one-day orientation cruise.

21JUL01 DEPENDANT’S CRUISE –The ship embarked 21 friends and family members during this one-day orientation cruise.

02AUG01 – 03AUG01 VIP CRUISE – The ship completed a VIP cruise for 22 guests On 02AUG01. Following a Brief Stop For Personnel (BSP), the ship anchored overnight in San Diego Bay. On 03AUG01, the ship completed its second VIP cruise for 25 guests.

03AUG01 – 04AUG01 PRE-OVERSEAS MOVEMENT SERVICES – HOUSTON provided acoustic monitoring of USS PORTSMOUTH’s sound signature in various equipment line-ups prior to their overseas deployment. Precise ship handling and navigation was required to complete the Coordinated Submarine Radiated Noise Analysis (CSRNA) agenda and provide valid acoustic information. CAPT Bruce Smith, Commander Submarine Squadron Eleven, embarked to observe.

27AUG01 – 31AUG01 TIGER CRUISE – Provided 10 family members and friends the opportunity to get underway for a submarine transit from San Diego, California, to Bremerton, Washington.

31AUG01 – 18SEP01 ARRIVAL AT PUGET SOUND NAVAL SHIPYARD – The ship arrived in Bremerton and immediately began maintenance activities in support of the Engineered Refueling Overhaul scheduled to commence on 01 October 2001. In addition, all berthing, messing, and office facilities were transferred from the HOUSTON to the Crew’s Living Barge (YRBML-31) provided by CINCPACFLT.

18SEP01 – 31DEC01 ENGINEERED REFUELING OVERHAUL (ERO) – During this comprehensive overhaul period, all of the ship’s systems are scheduled for either replacement, upgrade, or repair. In addition, the nuclear reactor plant will be refueled allowing for extended ship life. The overhaul is scheduled to be completed no later than October 2003.