



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

USS HOUSTON (SSN 713)

FPO AP 96667-2393

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From: Commanding Officer, USS Houston (SSN 713)  
To: Director of Naval History (N09BH), Naval Historical  
Center, Washington DC 20374-5060

Subj: 2004 ANNUAL COMMAND HISTORY

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12H

Encl: (1) Command Composition and Organization  
(2) Command Chronology  
(3) Narrative  
(4) Supporting Documents  
(5) Electronic Copy of 2004 Annual Command History  
(3.5 Inch Floppy Disk)

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

  
J. S. ZAVADIL

# **USS HOUSTON (SSN-713)**

**UIC 20994**

## **COMMAND COMPOSITION AND ORGANIZATION**

### **1. MISSION:**

USS HOUSTON (SSN-713) is a Los Angeles class, nuclear powered, fast-attack submarine. HOUSTON was designed primarily as a high-speed submarine escort for aircraft carrier battle groups (CVBG's/CVNBG's) and Task Forces (TF's). She supports national military objectives with the ability to carry the fight to any hostile at sea or on land with MK-48 ADCAP torpedoes, and the Tomahawk Land Attack Missiles (TLAM). Because of her stealth, HOUSTON is an ideal platform for conducting such missions as Anti-Submarine Warfare (ASW), Anti-Surface Warfare (ASUW), Strike Warfare, Mine Warfare, Special Forces Operations/Deployment/Retrieval, Electronic Intelligence (ELINT) gathering, Acoustic Intelligence (ACINT) gathering, general intelligence collection, Combat Search and Rescue (CSAR), and various training missions.

### **2. ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE:**

USS HOUSTON (SSN-713) is one of three submarines attached to Submarine Squadron FIFTEEN and has no units under its operational or administrative control. HOUSTON was home ported in Bremerton, Washington while conducting Engineered Refueling Overhaul (ERO) Fiscal Year 2002 (FY-02) from January to June 2004, and a subsequent restricted availability from August to November 2004. On 24 December 2004, HOUSTON reported to its new homeport, Apra Harbor, Guam.

### **3. COMMANDING OFFICER:**

USS HOUSTON (SSN-713) is commanded by Commander John S. ZAVADIL, United States Navy. Commander Zavadil, is a native of [REDACTED] and is a 1986 graduate of George Washington University, with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Electrical Engineering.

Commander Zavadil relieved Commander Christopher J. Kaiser, United States Navy as Commanding Officer of HOUSTON on 7 January 2005.

# **USS HOUSTON (SSN-713)**

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## **COMMAND CHRONOLOGY**

### **COMMAND EMPLOYMENT CHRONOLOGY 2004**

01JAN04 - 05JAN04	INPORT, BREMERTON, WASHINGTON, CONDUCTING SHIP'S HOLIDAY STAND DOWN.
05JAN04 - 20JUN04	INPORT, BREMERTON, WASHINGTON, CONDUCTING ENGINEERED REFUELING OVERHAUL FY-02.
20JUN04 - 25JUN04	UNDERWAY FROM PUGET SOUND NAVAL SHIPYARD. CONDUCTED SEA TRIALS FOR COMPLETION OF ENGINEERED REFUELING OVERHAUL FY-02.
25JUN04 - 13JUL04	INPORT, BREMERTON, WASHINGTON, COMPLETING ENGINEERED REFUELING OVERHAUL FY-02.
13JUL04 - 29JUL04	UNDERWAY TO COMPLETE FOLLOW-ON SEA TRIALS AND TO CONDUCT INDEPENDENT STEAMING EXERCISES FOR CREW TRAINING.
29JUL04 - 28NOV04	INPORT, BREMERTON, WASHINGTON, CONDUCTING POST OVERHAUL MODERNIZATION RESTRICTED AVAILABILITY.
28NOV04 - 03DEC04	UNDERWAY FROM PUGET SOUND NAVAL SHIPYARD, TO MOVE TO NAVAL BASE KITSAP - BANGOR TO RECEIVE DEFENSIVE TORPEDO LOAD OUT, AND CONDUCT VOYAGE REPAIRS.
03DEC04 - 08DEC04	UNDERWAY FROM NAVAL BASE KITSAP - BANGOR FOR SEA TRIALS.
08DEC04 - 13DEC04	SHIP CONDUCTED ACOUSTIC TRIALS AT SOUTHEAST ALASKA ACOUSTIC FACILITY, KETCHIKAN, ALASKA.
13DEC04 - 24DEC04	SHIP TRANSITTED FROM KETCHIKAN, ALASKA, TO APRA HARBOR, GUAM.
24DEC04	SHIP ARRIVED AT ITS NEW HOMEPORT OF APRA HARBOR, GUAM.
24DEC04 - 31DEC04	INPORT, APRA HARBOR, GUAM, CONDUCTING SHIP'S HOLIDAY STAND DOWN.

**NOTES:**

DURING THE TIME SPENT IN OVERHAUL, THE SHIP USED ITS INPORT TIME TO SEND NUMEROUS MEMBERS OF SHIP'S FORCE TO SEVERAL SCHOOLS AND TO SUPPORT VARIOUS UNITS OF BOTH THE ATLANTIC AND PACIFIC FLEETS, ENABLING THE SUPPORTED UNITS TO MEET MANY OPERATIONAL COMMITMENTS AND SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETE NUMEROUS MISSIONS. THIS HAD THE ADDED BENEFIT OF KEEPING THE CREW PROFICIENT IN BASIC SUBMARINING AND SUPPORTING CREW QUALIFICATIONS.

## USS HOUSTON (SSN-713)

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### COMMAND NARRATIVE

2004

The majority of calendar year 2004 was devoted to completion of Engineered Refueling Overhaul FY-02 and Post-Overhaul Modernization Restricted Availability at Puget Sound Naval Shipyard, Bremerton, Washington, and the associated sea trials and testing periods that followed leading to the successful change of homeport to Naval Station Apra Harbor, Guam.

Events noted in the command chronology are as follows:

01JAN04 - 05JAN04	Ship completed the winter holiday standdown in support of crew morale and welfare.
05JAN04 - 20JUN04	Ship continued conducting Engineered Refueling Overhaul FY-02.
20JUN04 - 25JUN04	Ship got underway from Puget Sound Naval Shipyard, Bremerton, Washington, to conduct sea trials following the completion of Engineered Refueling Overhaul FY-02 in the Pacific Northwest (PACNORWEST) local operating areas. Ship returned to Puget Sound Naval Shipyard following sea trials to conduct final post-Engineered Refueling Overhaul repairs.
25JUN04 - 13JUL04	Ship was inport, Puget Sound Naval Shipyard, Bremerton, Washington, conducting post-Engineered Refueling Overhaul repairs.
13JUL04 - 29JUL04	Ship got underway and completed remaining post-Engineered Refueling Overhaul sea trials requirements, Independent Steaming Exercises (ISE), and a Commanding Officer's Discretionary Training (CODT) period in the PACNORWEST local operating areas.
29JUL04-28NOV04	Inport Puget Sound Naval Shipyard, Bremerton, Washington, while conducting Post-Overhaul Restricted Availability.
28NOV04	Ship got underway from Puget Sound Naval Shipyard, Bremerton, Washington, to conduct a move to Naval Base Kitsap - Bangor, Washington, to receive a defensive torpedo load out in preparation for the ship's transit to the Southeast Alaska Acoustic Facility (SEAFAC) in Ketchikan, Alaska, and subsequent transit to Guam.
03DEC04 - 24DEC04	Ship got underway from Naval Base Kitsap - Bangor, Washington, to conduct post engineered refueling overhaul availability sea trials, acoustic trials, and its transit to the ship's new homeport of Naval Station Apra Harbor, Guam.
24DEC04	The ship arrived in its new homeport of Naval Station Apra Harbor, Guam.
24DEC04 - 31DEC04	The ship commenced a stand down period in support of crew morale and welfare and to allow the crew an opportunity to get situated with their families in the new homeport.
07JAN05	The ship conducted a change of command ceremony, in which Commander John S. Zavadih relieved Commander Christopher J. Kaiser as Commanding Officer, USS HOUSTON (SSN 713).