



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

COMMANDING OFFICER  
USS HOWARD (DDG 83)  
FPO AP 96667-1274

5750  
Ser DDG 83/129  
12 Jun 03

From: Commanding Officer, USS HOWARD (DDG 83)

To: Director, Naval Historical Center

Subj: 2002 USS HOWARD (DDG 83) COMMAND HISTORY

Encl: (1) Command History  
(2) Commanding Officer Biographies  
(3) 3x5 Diskette

1. Per reference (a), the 2002 Command History for USS HOWARD (DDG 83) is submitted.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "P. A. Piercey".

P. A. PIERCEY

Copy to:  
COMCRUDESGRU ONE  
COMDESRON SEVEN

## USS HOWARD (DDG 83) 2002 COMMAND HISTORY

### 1. Command Composition and Organization

- a. USS HOWARD (DDG 83); UIC: 22999
- b. Mission: The mission of HOWARD and her officers and crew of 346 is to be prepared to conduct prompt, sustained combat operations at sea. The ship can operate in a high density, multi-threat environment independently or as an integral member of a Carrier Strike Group or a Surface Action Group. In addition to self-defense capabilities in Air Warfare, Surface Warfare, and Undersea Warfare, HOWARD provides area protection to other ships in a battle group.
- c. Immediate Superior in Command: Commander, Destroyer Squadron SEVEN
- d. Commanding Officer: Commander Patrick A. Piercey, USN
- e. Permanent Duty Station: Naval Base San Diego, California

### 2. Chronology

01-14 January	Holiday Leave and Upkeep
07-08 January	ATG 3 M Assist Visit
07 January	GTM/GTG MLOC
07-11 January	NSFS School
14-18 January	CSSQT Inport ASW Maintenance
15-30 January	CSSQT Inport Maintenance Period
17 January	Chief Petty Officer Exam
18-20 January	COMDESRON 7 Force Protection Exercise
21-30 January	CSSQT ASW Training
22-25 January	ATG Admin Assist Visit
22-24 January	Bridge Resource Management
29 January	Inport Torpedo Test Firing
29 January	Helo Det Onload
31 January	Fast Cruise
04-05 February	Underway San Diego Oparea
04-05 February	LINK 11/4/16
05 February	CIWS PACFIRE
05 February	Underway Replenishment
06-12 February	Transit MIDPAC
06-12 February	ADS DT 801 Testing
06-10 February	WSN 100 Hour Calibration
11 February	5" PACFIRE
11 February	Underway Replenishment
12 February	Arrive NAVSTA Pearl Harbor, HI
12-18 February	Inport NAVSTA Pearl Harbor, HI
13 February	Pierside Refueling NAVSTA Pearl Harbor, HI
14 February	BFTT Test with FTCPAC
14 February	Air Slug/Dummy Torpedo Firing
18-22 February	Underway Hawaii OPAREA
18 February	USW Range FORACS

19-20 February	WSAT
19-21 February	USW SQT
	LINK 11/16
	MK 46 OTS TORPEX and DT 801 Data Collection
20 February	Kingfisher Range
21 February	EW Range
	MK 50 OTS TORPEX and DT 801 Data Collection
	LAMPS TORPEX and DT 801 Data Collection
22 February	Arrive NAVSTA Pearl Harbor, HI
22-25 February	Inport NAVSTA Pearl Harbor, HI
25-28 February	Underway Hawaii OPAREA
25-27 February	Strike SQT
25 February	ULM 4 Range
26-28 February	Manned Raids
01 March	Arrive NAVSTA Pearl Harbor, HI
01-03 March	Inport NAVSTA Pearl Harbor, HI
01 March	Pierside Refueling NAVSTA Pearl Harbor, HI
04 March	Command Assessment
04-08 March	Underway Hawaii OPAREA
04 March	CIWS PACFIRE
05 March	E-6 Advancement Exam
05-07 March	Combined Missile Exercise with USS LASSEN (DDG 82)
07 March	Underway Replenishment
08-10 March	Anchored Maui
11-21 March	Transit MIDPAC to San Diego
12 March	E-5 Advancement Exam
18 March	CIWS PACFIRE
19 March	CIWS BLK 1B Surface Demonstration
19 March	E-4 Advancement Exam
19 March	Underway Replenishment
21 March	Arrive NAVSTA San Diego
22 March	FTCPAC Tech Assist Visit
	Electrical Distribution Survivability Demonstration
25-29 March	NAVSEA Borescope
28 March	Medical Readiness Assessment
01-05 April	INSURV Final Contract Trials
03 April	FCA Certification
05 April	Mr. Tom Anderson Painting Presentation
08 April	Underway enroute Seal Beach
08-09 April	Inport Seal Beach
	Ammo offload
09-10 April	Underway enroute NAVSTA San Diego
10 April	Arrive NAVSTA San Diego
	Pierside Defueling
11-16 April	Barge Move Aboard
12 April	Medical Readiness Assessment
	PSA Safety Standdown
15-16 April	CMEO Standdown
18 April-12 August	PSA
20 April	Deadstick Move to South West Marine
25 April	Commodore's Call

30 April	Undocking Conference
01-03 May	Bridge Resource Management
03 May	Barge Shift
28 May-07 June	Single Ship ASW Trainer
28-29 May	MSI Trainer
03-07 June	EOSS Evaluation
05 June	Crew Padres Game
10-14 June	ICAS Software Install
10 June	PSA Midpoint Golf Tournament
	Wreath Laying Ceremony
10-12 June	Petty Officer INDOC
11-12 June	PFA
14 June	PFA
	Command Picnic
16-22 June	CIC Team Trainer, Wallops Island, VA
21 June	Aegis/ Combat System Light Off
25-27 June	MSI
25 June-01 July	Potable Water System Groom and Alignment
26 June	Refuel Ship
27 June	GTG/ RIMSS Testing
11 July	JP5 Refueling
15-18 July	ICAS Training
15-19 July	ASIR
	NSFS Team Trainer
18-19 July	RSO Engineering LTT
22-23 July	ATG 3M Assist Visit
22 July	AAV Pre-look
29 July-02 August	MCS Software Load
02 August	Fast Cruise
08 August	PSA Picnic
09 August	Fast Cruise
	RSO Engineering LTT Outbrief
09 August	MELO/ Dock Trials
13 August	Sea Trials
	AAW DTE Demo
	CIWS Low E Demo
14 August	NAVOSH Quicklook Inbrief
15 August	PSA Completion Conference
16 August	Depart South West Marine
	Arrive NAVSTA San Diego
19-23 August	ATWCS Trainer
22 August	AAV
26 August	AUX Steaming/ISO Incline Experiment
26-28 August	Chief Petty Officer Indoc
27 August	Dead Stick Move
	Incline Experiment
03 September	Underway enroute Deperming Facility
04 September	COMDESRON 7 Ship Handling Competition
	Deperming
05 September	Underway enroute NAVSTA San Diego
	Degaussing Runs

	E-6 Advancement Exam
	Arrive NAVSTA San Diego
06 September	Safety Standdown
09 September	LINK 11 Longlook
09-10 September	MSI
10-11 September	Explosive Safety Assist Visit
11 September	AUX Steaming
11-12 September	NSFS Refresher Training
12-13 September	DUST Trainer
12 September	E-5 Advancement Exams
16-19 September	Underway SOCAL OPAREA
17 September	Underway Replenishment
19 September	E-4 Advancement Exam
	Arrive Seal Beach
19-20 September	Ammo Onload
20-26 September	Underway SOCAL OPAREA
21-23 September	FIREX I / NFCS Testing
23 September	CIWS PACFIRE
24 September	Missile Tracking Exercise with USS BOXER (LHD 4)
25 September	Underway Replenishment
26 September	Arrive NAVSTA San Diego
27-29 September	Warfare Commander Conference
27 Sep-04 Oct	SEMAT
28-29 September	Visit Ship
30 Sep-04 Oct	SMA
30 Sep-03 Oct	3M Assessment
03 Oct	Aux Steaming
	ISIC Cart Brief
	Inport Exercises (VISEX, COMEX, MITE, EWEX, INTEX, SLAMEX)
07-12 October	Strike/Engineering LTT
07-11 October	Third Fleet Scheduling Conference
07-12 October	Underway enroute San Francisco
07 October	Harbor Navigation Package
07-11 October	Strike CMTQT
12-15 October	Inport San Francisco Fleet Week
15-18 October	Underway enroute NAVSTA San Diego
17 October	Underway Replenishment
	DLQ's with HSL-41
18 October	Arrive NAVSTA San Diego
21-23 October	CART II
21 October	Shipwide Admin Checks
22-25 October	Underway SOCAL OPAREA
22 October	Harbor Navigation Package
24-25 October	CART II (Seamanship)
24 October	Underway Replenishment
25 Oct	DESRON 9 Embarked
25 October	Arrive NAVSTA San Diego
28 Oct-01 Nov	Underway DESRON 9 Group Sail
28 October	VBSS LTT
31 October	SLAMEX
	Underway Replenishment

04-05 November	Underway CART II Total Ship Survivability Exercise
05 November	Arrive NAVSTA San Diego
06-08 November	TSTA ISIC Brief
06 November	Berth Shift
08 November	Force Protection Exercise 1
11-15 November	Inport TSTA
12-15 November	CMTQ
19-21 November	Force Protection Exercise 2
25-27 November	Underway SOCAL OPAREA Harbor Navigation Package
26 November	Force Protection Exercise- Small Boat Attack at Anchor
27 November	Arrive NAVSTA San Diego
28 November-	
01 December	Thanksgiving Holiday Standown
02-06 December	Underway SOCAL OPAREA
02-06 December	Engineering TSTA
02 December	ATG Day/Night Harbor Navigation Package
03-05 December	EW TSTA
03-06 December	CBS TSTA
04 December	Underway Replenishment
06 December	Ship Christmas Party At Hyatt Mission Bay
09-11 December	Underway SOCAL OPAREA Engineering TSTA CBS TSTA
11 December	Arrive NAVSTA San Diego
13 December	Change of Command
13-31 December	Holiday Leave and Upkeep

### 3. Narrative:

HOWARD began calendar year 2002 in Holiday Upkeep. The Combat Systems Ship's Qualification Trials (CSSQT) Inport Maintenance Period started in January. This period was used to prepare both the ship and the crew for the upcoming weapons systems tests. This period included system checks and validation, pre-action calibrations and many schools for HOWARD'S crew.

The months of February and March entailed completing Combat System Ship Qualification Trials in the Hawaiian Operation Area (OPAREA). During this time HOWARD and her crew spent many days underway learning and demonstrating HOWARD'S tactical capabilities and combat readiness. CSSQT included the firing of seven Standard Missiles and five torpedoes and expending 3,500 rounds of CIWS ammunition.

Once HOWARD returned from a successful CSSQT, the crew made preparations for INSURV Final Contract Trials. The Board of Inspection and Survey come onboard on 01 April 2002 to inspect HOWARD for proper maintenance, upkeep and preservation. HOWARD performed brilliantly, earning top scores in all areas and earning the highest ever score during any INSURV inspection for safety and cleanliness.

HOWARD'S next event was the Post Shakedown Availability (PSA). The ship was in PSA from 18 April-12 August. During this time, HOWARD was shifted to Southwest Marine and the crew was moved to a berthing barge where all business was conducted until PSA completion. Major work completed to the ship during this time included hull painting, Controllable Pitch Propeller calibration, Integrated Condition Assessment System installation, Main Reduction Gear pinion replacement, INMARSAT B installation and numerous upgrades to HOWARD'S combat systems suite. The crew attended many schools and trainers during this time including Single Ship ASW Trainer, Marine Safety International, Bridge Resource Management and CIC Team Trainer.

During August two fast cruises were conducted at the beginning of the month to prepare the crew for getting underway for the first time after a four month shipyard availability. After successful sea trials, HOWARD returned to NAVSTA San Diego.

Deperming was conducted on 4 September at the deperming facility in Point Loma. Successful degaussing runs were conducted before the ship returned to NAVSTA San Diego. Once the ship returned a safety stand down was conducted for the crew.

The first extensive underway period after PSA was in September. This underway included an ordnance onload at Seal Beach Naval Weapons Station. The underway period provided the crew the opportunity to do an Underway Replenishment and various exercises to maintain ship readiness. These exercises included HOWARD'S first FIREX, during which HOWARD scored 97.5% and the Naval Fire Controls System CNO project, where HOWARD was the first and only ship to successfully perform a digital call for fire from US Marines on San Clemente Island.

HOWARD got underway for San Francisco Fleet Week in early October with the USS BOXER Amphibious Ready Group. During the transit to San Francisco the following events took place: Harbor Navigation Package, Strike CMTQT, Strike LTT and Engineering LTT. During the San Francisco visit the crew had an opportunity to participate in many activities coordinated by MWR, including the unfurling of a massive United States Flag at Game 6 of Major League Baseball's World Series.

HOWARD successfully completed an accelerated training cycle during October and November. During this time HOWARD created its own diverse training program which incorporated engineering and combat system scenarios to train the crew to overcome various situations that the ship could encounter while conducting combat operations on deployment.

The crew prepared for a Change of Command in December. Commander Patrick A. Piercey relieved Commander Joe Nolan of command on December 13, 2002. A reception was held on board after the ceremony for friends, family and the crew. Following the ceremony, the ship began its holiday upkeep period.